FBIS DAILY REPORT

MIDDLE EAST & SOUTH ASIA REVIEW

24 MAY 1985

Lebanon

Fighting continued between the Amal movement and Palestinians in Beirut 24 May despite the announcement of a cease-fire agreement between Amal and the Palestine National Salvation Front during the night, Voice of Lebanon radio reported. The cease-fire agreement, reached during a meeting in Damascus chaired by Syrian Vice President 'Abd al-Halim Khaddam, provides for the Lebanese Army's 6th Brigade to maintain security in the Palestinian camps, from which weapons will be collected and stored, according to Beirut radio. Meanwhile, Amal sources cited by the clandestine Radio Free Lebanon stated that overall casualties in the fighting had reached 238 dead and 900 wounded by the end of 23 May.

Responding to Syria's "campaign to justify the massacres" in Beirut, a PLO statement cited by Algiers Voice of Palestine radio stressed that the PLO has never planned and does not plan to return to Beirut, but that it is fully responsible for the security of Palestinians in the refugee camps. In a related comment at a Tunis press conference reported by the radio, Fatah Central Committee member Salah Khalaf claimed that the Amal movement is implementing a secret agreement with Israel and the United States, adding that the action against the Palestinians is the "bill" for Israel's final withdrawal. He warned that after "liquidating" the camps in Beirut Amal will move on to the Palestinian camps in southern Lebanon. Khalaf welcomed Libyan leader Mu'ammar al-Qadhdhafi's "good statement" on the situation and PLO Executive Committee Chairman Yasir 'Arafat likewise thanked Al-Qadhdhafi during a press conference reported by Amman radio. Libyan media continued to support the Palestinians, with Voice of Greater Arab Homeland radio citing a Libyan press comment describing Amal as a "fifth column" that is colluding with Israel and waging a "dirty sectarian war." The Libyan paper, *AL-ZAHF AL-AKHDAR*, added that Arab states with a presence in Lebanon can "immediately" halt the massacres.

As for the Lebanese christians, the Lebanese Forces Executive Committee issued a statement blaming the fighting in West Beirut on a "Palestinian decision made by Yasir 'Arafat to return to the arena of Arab axes through Lebanon," The Voice of Lebanon reported. The statement also held "Palestinian terrorism" responsible for the 22 May car-bomb in Sinn al-Fil.

Israel

U.S. Relations — In a television interview carried by the GOVERNMENT PRESS OFFICE, Industry and Trade Minister Ari'el Sharon denied U.S. Ambassador Samuel Lewis' allegations that Sharon Gave Lewis and Philip Habib details of his plans to invade Lebanon during a meeting in December 1981.

West Bank — Security forces recently arrested 30 members of a PFLP cell held responsible for a number of attacks in the Ramallah district including the murder of an IDF soldier in Al-Birah, the IDF spokesman disclosed in a statement reported by Jerusalem radio.

Iran-Iraq War

Iranian planes launched a second raid on Iraqi electricity installations 23 May, hitting a power station at Zubayr in southern Iraq, according to Tehran radio. Meanwhile, an Iraqi military spokesman acknowledged the Iranian attack on Dukan in a statement reported by INA, but he maintained that the Iranian aircraft were forced away by Iraqi air defenses without achieving their objectives.

In a separate development, IRNA claimed that Bahraini police have arrested a number of Iraqi diplomats who have confessed to establishing an underground organization in the Bahraini Army.

Iran

Iran has decided to expel the REUTER representative from Tehran because of his "biased" and sometimes "false" reports, an Islamic Guidance Ministry official announced in a statement cited by IRNA.

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Salah Khalaf on Syrian 'Plan,' Arab Silence

LD232111 Algiers Voice of Palestine in Arabic 1602 GMT 23 May 85

[Correspondent's dispatch from Tunis]

[Text] Brother Salah Khalaf, alias Abu Iyad, member of the Fatah Central Committee and the official in charge of the revolution's security, held a press conference in Tunis today where he spoke of the latest developments in the Palestinian camps of Sabra, Shatila, and Burj al-Barajinah. On the events in Lebanon and the dimensions of the plan, Brother Abu Iyad said: The battle of the Palestinian camps, which has been raging for 5 straight days, is not directed against Fatah, 'Arafat, or the organization alone, but is also directed against the entire Palestinian people. If there is a Syrian plan to bring calm and establish peace in Lebanon, Syria has been accusing us of trying to undermine it. It is a known fact that the so-called Salvation Front in Syria, which is supported by Syria, is also taking part in the fighting.

[Syrian Vice President] 'Abd al-Halim Khaddam undertook the contracts to expel the Palestinian people from Tall al-Za'tar in 1975, then Tripoli, and now Sabra and Shatila. If the plan in Beirut achieves the objectives sought by Nabih Birri and those behind him — namely, liquidating the Palestinian camps of Sabra, Shatila, and Burj al-Barajinah and stripping the Palestinians of their arms — the plan will move on to 'Ayn al-Hulwah, Al-Rashidiyah, Burj al-Shamali, and all the Palestinian camps. The aim of the plan is to push the Palestinians toward the north and Al-Biqa' and keep them away from the borders of their homeland.

The plan then, Abu Iyad said, seeks first of all the domination of the camp, and then domination of the Palestinians. It seeks to drive them out of Beirut and the south in order to keep them in the north far away from the occupied territory. Abu Iyad said that Nabih Birri stated this openly at a press conference when he said, our objective is to end the plot. When he was asked what the plot was, he said: The return of the Palestinians to the south. We will prevent them from returning, Birri said.

But how can we return when our people are already there? We have over 400,000 Palestinians scattered in the south, north, and Beirut. The total number of people who left Beirut in 1982 was less than 10,000; of these, less than 2,000 were from Lebanon [itself]. Thus the talks about the return of 'Arafat's men and the harping on this point is in actual fact the plot, Abu Iyad said, for the Palestinians were already in the south. They did not leave it. Under the slogan of the prevention of the PLO's return, the Palestinian people are now being liquidated.

Brother Abu Iyad added: The other part of the plot is to raise a barrier of hatred between our people and the Shi'ites. What is actually taking place at present is that the Israelis are being told that Nabih Birri and those behind him will protect the security of Israel and that they are the ones who can prevent the Palestinian gun from returning to the south — indeed, that they can stop the patriotic gun. Abu Iyad added: Take note. What is taking place at present is only the implementation of the secret agreement between Nabih Birri and those behind him and Israel and the United States. What is taking place at present is the bill for the final Israeli withdrawal. I do not wish to talk about the direct Syrian involvement or participation, Abu Iyad said. But, I must say that Syria at least could stop this carnage if it so wanted.

What is happening will not have any effect on our people's morale or their adherence to the Palestinian representation. All those who think that these massacres will force our people to concede the right to Palestinian representation are mistaken. The Palestinian representation is the most precious thing this revolution has possessed throughout the past 20 years. We are a people who want peace. We want a political solution, but not just any solution at any price. We want a political solution that would return our people to their homeland and to their land through their right to self-determination and to setting up their independent state, which would unite with Jordan and any others after attaining national independence. At his press conference Brother Abu Iyad spoke of the savageness of the massacres and criminal operations against 70 wounded men in Gaza Hospital [in Lebanon] who were burned alive, and of over 30 cases of abduction and murder at the Amal barricades and how the Red Cross was prevented from entering the camps until yesterday.

So far, the Arab response has come from Colonel al-Qadhdhafi. He has made a good statement for which we thank him. Other than that, we have heard nothing — a frightful Arab silence. Brothers, despite all that is happening — and it is extremely horrible — against our Palestinian people, the Arab League Council has failed to achieve a quorum for a meeting to discuss the 5-day long massacres and liquidation of our Palestinian people.

DFLP Cables Al-Qadhdhafi on Amal Threat

LD231533 Tripoli Domestic Service in Arabic 1230 GMT 23 May 85

[Text] The brother leader of the revolution has received a cable from the Democratic Front for the Liberation of Palestine [DFLP], which points out that the Amal movement is still massing its forces in order to continue its barbaric attacks against the Palestinians. The cable contained the following:

The Amal movement is massing more forces in Sahat al-Rannah area, Hay Farhat, the Kuwaiti Embassy, Bir Hasan, Al-Ramal al-'Ali, and Al-Ghazar in order to carry out its barbaric attacks against Palestinian refugee camps. The DFLP said in its cable to the brother leader that the Amal movement is determined to continue its aggression and to use all means to find whomever will help it perpetrate this aggression. Intensive contacts during the next 24 hours will [words indistinct] stop the fall of more victims and halt this treacherous aggression.

PFLP Forces Helping To Confront 'Brutal Attacks'

LD232356 Kuwait KUNA in English 2010 GMT 23 May 85

[Text] Kuwait, May 23 (KUNA) — The Popular Front for the Liberation of Palestine (PFLP) accused the Lebanese Amal movement of attempting to liquidate the Palestinian revolution

in order to impose hegemony on its forces. In a communique published here, the PFLP said its forces have joined those of other Palestinian movements in confronting "the brutal attacks on refugee camps in Beirut carried out by the Amal movement and the Sixth Brigade of the Lebanese Army." The communique stated that with limited supplies, Palestinian factions are facing a bloody war with Amal which "aims at abolishing the Palestinian national heroic role in Lebanon." Arguments by Amal movement for starting this confrontation are baseless, said the communique which pointed out to a meeting between members of the National Salvation Front and Amal officials two weeks ago to discuss means of organizing the national Lebanese-Palestinian relations.

"Instead of replying to proposals of the National Salvation Front, Amal movement launched brutal attacks on Palestinian refugee camps aiming at destroying and disarming the Palestinian revolution." Although the opposition Palestinian front accused the PLO leader of designing plots in Lebanon, its communique said PFLP fighters have joined all Palestinians in confronting the aggressors. In another communique, issued here also, the PFLP declared that Amal movement elements are carrying out provocative acts against Palestinian refugee camps in Tyre. The statement said Amal militia has barricaded entrances to the camps and prevented Palestinians from leaving to work.

PFLP Rejects Camp Disarmament

JN241248 Paris Radio Monte Carlo in Arabic 1200 GMT 24 May 85

[Text] The PFLP has affirmed that all factions, including the Palestine National Salvation Front, reject any agreement that stipulates the disarmamant of Palestinians or the entry of other forces into the camps. At least this is what a statement issued by the PFLP Political Bureau says.

The statement, on the other hand, affirms that the PFLP is now fighting alongside all the revolution factions in defense of the Palestinian camps in Beirut.

PNC's Al-Dajani on U.S. Stance, PLO Representation

PM231855 Cairo AL-AHRAM International Edition in Arabic 22 May 85 p 7

[PNC member Ahmad Sidqi al-Dajani article: "On the 'Available Opportunities' and Their Nature"]

[Text] I was not expecting this contact by some American journalists during my stay in Amman a few days ago to participate in two scientific seminars. This was why, when they asked for a meeting, I had to remind them that I had left my post on the PLO Executive Committee and tell them that I was about to take part in a scientific seminar on "Preparing the Arab Man for Scientific Creation" after having just finished participating in the Fourth Conference of the Royal Academy for Islamic Research. The answer was that still they would like to meet me and that they were well aware of my position. I had known some of them a few years ago when I was carrying out my duty at the United Nations. I did not expect the meeting to last long and so I allocated it 1 hour, but it went on for 2 hours in the hall of the hotel at which I was staying.

During the 2 hours we had a heated debate on current events which centered on certain particular subjects. The debate seemed consistent with the prevalent style among American journalists; it depends on posing challenging questions aimed at provoking the person being questioned.

The situation then changed when I started putting my questions to them as specialist observers. I noticed that they were keen to recall what I said in my speech at the recent PNC in which I discussed my view of the present stage and the reason for declining Executive Committee membership.

The following day I recalled what went on during that heated debate and I was particularly interested in three subjects which I thought worth writing about. The first concerning "the available opportunity and its nature," the second concerning "the image of Mr Shultz and his method of dealing with our problem," and the third concerning "the Palestinian-U.S. dialogue and its story."

The term "available opportunity" is often used these days in the current talks about the "settlement" of the Arab-Israeli conflict. "U.S. observers" in particular say that this available opportunity is present today in the first year of President Reagan's second term of office, the maximum timespan of which is the end of 1986 when the congressional elections begin and the President will again be busy with the same old story.

The American journalists, after talking about the "available opportunity" and whether we should seize this opportunity or not in order to enter into "direct negotiations," asked me: "Are you not afraid to miss this opportunity?"

I replied: "You know that I define the nature of the current stage of the struggle as the stage of confrontation which will remain such as long as the Israeli enemy carries out daily aggression against us. Negotiations cannot begin during the confrontation stage unless there is an agreement on the basis of a settlement, the parties to it, and its framework."

My question to them was: "What is the basis of a settlement in the U.S. view?"

One of them said: "Of course, Security Council Resolution 242. But why the question?"

I said: "What is left of Resolution 242 in the U.S. interpretation of it? Please explain to us the U.S. interpretation of the resolution."

Another said: "What do you mean?"

I said: "The United States adopts the term 'occupied territories' in the resolution. The story of the definite article 'the' in the difference between the English version and the French version is well known. What is the U.S. understanding of occupied territories and what are the boundaries of such territories?"

One of them said: "There is talk about slight border alterations under which Israel gains 5 percent of the land while you will have 95 percent of the West Bank and Gaza territories."

Another said: "The United States will not declare a stand; the matter is left to negotiations."

I said: "The United States did declare a clear stand toward the Zionist colonization of the occupied territories, the gist of which is: The settlements are not illegal but they constitute an obstacle to peace negotiations. It is understood from President Reagan's initiative that the United States will not intervene in order to remove those settlements. You know well how much land the occupation authorities have seized in the West Bank and Gaza and how much of it is left. You all talk about the report by the Israeli Benvenisti [Jerusalem deputy mayor] about the subject. What is the U.S. view of the territories on which the negotiations are to be held?"

I did not expect an answer to my question because I knew well that there is no American answer to it, but I followed the discussion that went on among those I asked about the attitude of President Reagan's administration toward the question of Zionist settlements. The President himself had raised this question in his electioneering speech from the the Zionist B'nai Brith association's rostrum in Washington when he was a presidential candidate. The question was again raised by Jeane Kirkpatrick from the UN rostrum and by Shultz on several occasions. I said: "The United States speaks about a unified Jerusalem. What is its attitude worth the occupied territories of eastern Jerusalem which are part of the West Bank that was occupied in 1967?"

Not expecting an answer to my question, I continued: "The United States speaks about its guarantees for Israel's security. This has often been repeated. My question is: What is its understanding of Israel's security? You know that the Reagan administration recently gave Israel $1.5 billion. It has also concluded with it a customs exemption agreement and an agreement to build the Lavi plane. This is being interpreted by some as an attempt to convince Israel to negotiate. In the meantime the United States is raising the question of Palestinian representation and bringing the greatest pressures on the Arabs it talks to, putting to them demands that no reasonable and thinking person can accept. What is the U.S. understanding of Israel's security?"

One of them said: "This will be clarified during the negotiations. What is important is that negotiations should begin and the opportunity should not be lost. Otherwise there will be a deadlock for years to come."

I said: "You realize that we are not afraid of what you call a deadlock occurring in the area because we know very well what breaks the deadlock. The saying 'catch the occupied Arab territories before Israel completes annexing them' convinces nobody because, as one of our popular saying goes, 'a slaughtered goat does not fear skinning'; or, as a poem says, 'a drowning person is not afraid of getting wet.' It is also because our nation will not forsake its right, the journey is a long one, and its roots run deep into the homeland.

"Obviously if such things are not clarified before the negotiations they will not be clarified during them. They will become more ambiguous for the negotiators and the attitudes toward them will be further complicated. You will have to look for a long time before you find a negotiator who agrees to negotiate on nothing that he will obtain."

One of them said: "The available opportunity will then be missed." I said: "We must define this opportunity if we accept that it exists.

"If you think that there is an opportunity to invite the Arabs to negotiate on nothing then you have wrongly defined the nature of the available opportunity.

"The opportunity is available for one thing, which is that for the United States this is the year to change its policy, define its stands, and answer the question that would enable it to adopt the international interpretation of Resolution 242, which means that the ball is now in the U.S. court. Efforts should concentrate on trying to make the United States accept and respect international legality."

The discussion on the question of the available opportunity then touched on the U.S. move to find "Palestinians" to have dialogue with within a Jordanian-Palestinian delegation. It is evident that the U.S. attitude toward the Palestinian party, one of the parties to the settlement, is still captive to self-made complications. I asked my interlocutors: "Should not the United States, if it really wants its move to achieve anything, have initiated an unconditional dialogue with the PLO years ago?"

One of them said: "Kissinger's secret pledge in 1975 prevents it from doing so."

I said: "Kissinger himself does not agree with this interpretation nor does the 'seven fountainheads' [as published] report prepared by four American experts on the conflict in 1981."

Another said to his colleague: "What our friend is saying is true. There is nothing to stop the United States from holding a dialogue with the PLO. This was the explanation given to Congress in 1975 regarding Kissinger's pledge to Israel. Dialogue is different from official negotiations."

I said: "Don't you see the ball is in Washington's court? Let it concentrate its move in its own court and within itself so that it will revise its policy, define its stands, and move toward accepting international legality, thus sparing itself and the area the burden of its present immature move and its consequences."

It is clear in this move that the United States has decided to talk with PNC members, but it refuses to talk to the Executive Committee members. It therefore confines the definition of the PLO to the Executive Committee members. It is known that those who elect those members are the PNC members.

It happened that a U.S. diplomat recently visited a PNC member in Amman who asked him: "What is your attitude toward talking to the Central Council members?" This is the Council that is elected by the Executive Committee and by the PNC

chairman's office from among the PNC members in order to provide consultation during the period between PNC sessions.

The U.S. diplomat replied: "No, I do not yet know what this attitude is."

The PNC member asked provocatively: "And how would you behave if I told you that I am a Central Council member?"

The U.S. diplomat replied: "I would beg you not to mention that and we would continue our talk in your capacity as a PNC member."

The comments of a number of Arab and foreign observers have been unanimous in saying that the U.S. Administration's attempts to circumvent dialogue with the PLO by proposing a special definition of its understanding of what is meant by the PLO are futile and stem from ideas that are incomprehensible to a reasonable thinker.

The PLO is the body of the founders of the highest legislative body in it, which is the PNC, and the highest executive body is the Executive Committee which is elected by the PNC.

The body is one and its institutions cannot be dismantled and separated from one another.

What is interesting is that the PLO concept is as clear as daylight. Yet the U.S. Administration denies it and proposes another concept which no logic accepts. There are those who fall for the other concept either out of the desire to chase a delusion or to go along with the current till its end so as to give maximum opportunity for distinguishing between right and wrong and true and false. In our view the matter calls for refraining from falling for what is illogical right from the start because it would delay the process of the United States facing the truth and revising its policies and stands. In the light of the above can we say: When there is talk about an available opportunity during the first year of the second U.S. presidential term, this opportunity exists there, in Washington, and it is up to the United States to adopt its stand by joining the international legality.

So let the United States take this opportunity before it disappears and before it is confronted shortly with new facts in the area whose signs have begun to emerge. And let us preoccupy ourselves with the requirements of confronting the Israeli aggression which racist Zionism is exercising in southern Lebanon before completing its withdrawal from there and in the occupied territories, where it is building Zionist settlements and terrorizing the inhabitants of the occupied territories. Let us resist until the new facts emerge completely and impose themselves on the situation.

BAHRAIN

Sudanese Prime Minister Speaks on Domestic Issues

GF230955 Manama WAKH in Arabic 0550 GMT 23 May 85

[Text] Manama, 23 May (WAKH) — Sudanese Prime Minister Dr al-Jazuli Daf'allah has said that the previous Numayri regime ruined everything in Sudan, so that 10 million Sudanese people have so far been affected by the famine that has reached the outskirts of the capital, Khartoum.

In a statement published here today by the newspaper *AKHBAR AL-KHALIJ*, Dr al-Jazuli Daf'allah said that, "Sudan as a whole calls on Egypt to hand over Ja'far Numayri". However, he remarked: "We will not create a crisis with Egypt over this matter."

The Sudanese prime minister expressed his astonishment at the stand of John Garang, the leader of the rebellion in southern Sudan, who has rejected a dialogue with the new government in Sudan. He said: "There are many southerners who participate in the government and in running the country."

On the possibility that the military may monopolize rule in the Sudan, he said: "We are convinced that the military will not attempt to do that. Our eyes will remain open."

Dr al-Jazuli Daf'allah denied that there is any U.S. pressure on Sudan to close the Falasha file. He said: "I have no knowledge of any U.S. pressure on Sudan. I have remarked to the U.S. ambassador in Khartoum that the revolution in Sudan is an original revolution that springs from the people, and we want Sudan — in its foreign relations — to be nonaligned and away from axes. We want Sudan to extend the hand of friendship to everyone."

The Sudanese prime minister added that the U.S. ambassador expressed understanding of the situation and said: "We want friends, not agents."

Dr al-Jazuli Daf'allah said that contrary to reports, the U.S. ambassador in Khartoum did not send any memorandum requesting that the Falasha file not be opened. He remarked: "The Falasha file is still open, and a committee is still interrogating 'Umar Muhammad al-Tayyib, the former vice president. At the head of the list of charges against him is his role in the Falasha affair."

OMAN

Official Views Jordan-PLO Agreement, PDRY, GCC

JN230809 Amman AL-RA'Y in Arabic 23 May 85 pp 1, 22

[Sulayman al-Qudat dispatch]

[Text] His Highness Fahd ibn Mahmud Al Bu Sa'id, deputy prime minister for legal affairs in the Sultanate of Oman, has made a comprehensive statement to *AL-RA'Y* in which he spoke about all issues of concern to the Sultanate, the GCC, the Palestine question, the Iraqi-Iranian war, and Jordanian-Omani relations.

In his statement he said that Arab support for the Jordanian-Palestinian agreement will overcome many difficulties and will provide Arab and international pressure that can terminate the current stalemate and open up an opportunity for progress toward the restoration of the Palestinian people's legitimate rights.

His highness said that the Sultanate is shouldering its responsibility in protecting navigation in its territorial waters in the Strait of Hormuz. It hopes there will be no threat to navigation in the strait since such a danger will threaten international navigation in general.

Fahd ibn Mahmud spoke about relations between his country and the PDRY and said: The two countries decided to turn over a new leaf in their relations based on neighborliness, mutual respect, and noninterference in internal affairs. We do not say that relations between the two countries have realized all the aspired results, but we can say that it is a good start; the two sides are seeking to strengthen their relations and to remove all obstacles that may impede developing these relations.

Regarding efforts being exerted by the GCC countries to end the bloody conflict in the Gulf between Iraq and Iran, he said: Although the GCC states exerted several attempts through direct contact with the two parties, or on the level of backing Arab, Islamic, and international efforts to end the war, these attempts remain deadlocked. A large gap continues to exist between the two countries' stands. Fahd ibn Mahmud praised Jordanian-Omani relations and said that they provide a very developed pattern for relations between two fraternal countries. They are witnessing large-scale cooperation in political, economic, cultural, educational, and other fields.

QATAR

Cabinet Denounces Attacks on Lebanon Palestinians

GF230648 Manama WAKH in Arabic 0538 GMT 23 May 85

[Text] Doha, 22 May (WAKH) — Qatar has denounced the practices that have taken the lives of numerous innocent inhabitants in the Palestinian camps in Beirut, and destroyed their houses and their educational, health, and other facilities.

This came during the weekly session of the Qatari Cabinet here tonight under His Highness Shaykh Khalifah ibn Hamad Al Thani, the amir of Qatar. The Cabinet reviewed the developments in the Lebanese arena, particularly the fighting around the Palestinian camps, and the severe ordeal and suffering that their inhabitants are going through as a result of the violent attacks on them.

The Cabinet called on all concerned parties to move at once to end the bloodshed and stop the fighting, which benefits only the mutual Zionist enemy of the Arab and Islamic nations.

Following that, the Cabinet moved on to the discussion of subjects on the agenda and made appropriate decisions.

SAUDI ARABIA

King Fahd Phones 'Arafat About Beirut Camps

JN240533 Amman AL-RA'Y in Arabic 24 May 85 p 1

[Text] Amman — His Majesty King Fahd ibn 'Abd al-'Aziz, king of Saudi Arabia, telephoned Yasir 'Arafat yesterday afternoon to inquire about the situation of the camps in Lebanon.

'Arafat briefed His Majesty King Fahd on the shelling, siege, and barbaric attacks by the Lebanese Army's 6th Brigade, the Amal movement, and some pro-Syrian elements.

King Fahd said he is following up events with anxiety and grief and that he is exerting special efforts to stop what is going on.

Foreign Minister Explains Foreign Policies

PM230945 Jeddah 'UKAZ in Arabic 11 May 85 p 1

[Foreign Minister Sa'ud al-Faysal article: "Political Decision-making in the Era of His Majesty King Fahd"]

[Text] Since the Saudi Arabian Kingdom was established and his majesty, the late king, 'Abd al-'Aziz, laid down the basis of rule there, it has constantly pursued a clear and distinctive line in its internal and external policy. The Kingdom's policy ever since has followed the same line, operated within the same framework, and adhered to the same rules and principles. This continuity has been the hallmark of the foreign policy that his majesty, king Fahd ibn 'Abd al-'Aziz has been following and which is an extension of this line and a confirmation of those rules.

Saudi political decisionmaking is basically founded on ethical principles stemming from the magnanimous Islamic creed and the glorious Islamic heritage, which is clearly reflected in in the field of foreign policy. The Saudi Arabian Kingdom, which adopts Islam as a religion and a creed and the Koran as a constitution and guide, has laid down firm principles in its dealing with other countries. Since Islam calls for freedom, stands against aggression and exploitation, combats injustice in its various forms, and advocates equality and justice, the Saudi Arabian Kingdom deals with the others on equal footing, does not interfere in others' affairs, respects the principles of national sovereignty, functions in the international arena within the UN sphere, and respects and supports the UN Charter and efforts.

Saudi foreign policy during the era of his majesty the king has made long strides toward enhancing the Kingdom's status and bolstering its distinguished international position whether by adopting international stands that are compatible with its political stands or by supporting the political causes in which it beleives. This has earned a respected international reputation for the Kingdom and preserved the respect and appreciation of the whole world community. This is clearly evident in the Kingdom's stands toward the various Arab, Islamic, and international issues.

With regard to the Arab relations, there is no doubt that as far as the Kingdom is concerned these are not merely political ties or transient relations. Rather they are a matter of destiny and a cultural affiliation reflecting one history and one culture, and common hopes and aspirations. This affiliation has made it incumbent upon the Kingdom to pursue a firm path in dealing with the Arab brothers out of the desire to achieve Arab solidarity and therefore be committed to standing with the Arab causes of destiny. The Saudi foreign policy, under his majesty King Fahd's leadership, has continued to proceed toward translating this reality into tangible cooperation with the Arab brothers in the general political, economic, and strategic direction. Proceeding from this principle Saudi diplomacy untiringly and unhesitatingly works to purify the Arab skies of any disputes and to remove any obstacles that might hinder the march of joint Arab action. It is a source of pride for the Kingdom that it has been and still is the place to which the Arab brothers turn and in which they put their trust concerning anything that contributes to the progress of joint Arab action and the removal of any obstacles that might hinder such action, or for the purpose of achieving a united Arab stand in order to restore the usurped rights in the occupied territories.

On the level of the Palestinian problem, which has been and still is the Kingdom's main preoccupation and concern, his majesty has been anxious to place this problem above transient disputes between the Arab countries and to strive for the bolstering of collective Arab action in order to confront Israel's expansionist dangers and to gain greater support from the influential major powers in favor of Arab rights through pursuing a balanced Arab policy toward them in order to serve Arab objectives. The Kingdom's efforts concerning the Palestinian problem were not confined to strengthening Arab solidarity in this field for the achievement of Arab objectives, but also have sought and are still seeking to maintain close ties with the PLO and to give it every assistance possible. Perhaps the most important achievement during King Fahd's era in this regard was the endorsement by the 12th Arab summit, held in Fes in September 1982, of the 8-point peace plan proposed by his majesty for the establishment of peace based on justice in the Middle East. By the Fes summit's adoption of his majesty's peace plan, the plan became an Arab plan defining the Arab countries' concept of the peace process and confirmed their inclination toward peace on the basis of international legality and in harmony with the international will represented in the UN resolutions in this respect.

On the other hand, his majesty has shown great interest in developing cooperation with the brothers in the Gulf area and carrying it toward wider horizons in view of the ties of kinship and the similarity of regimes and interests; this is within the framework of the GCC which is a cornerstone of the edifice of Arab and Islamic solidarity and a living symbol of sincere cooperation on the path of Arab economic integration and cooperation in other fields with a view to ensuring the security and stability that we are seeking for all our peoples.

Proceeding from the Kingdom's constant message, the mainstays of which are Arab solidarity and brotherhood, and with total selflessness, the Kingdom, since the beginning of the Lebanese crisis, has been doing all it can in order to enable fraternal Lebanon to overcome its predicament, end the internecine

fighting, and establish harmony and conciliation among its people. His Majesty King Fahd has been and still is giving much of his time, effort, and thought to help to reach the desired solution that would achieve national conciliation and a rallying around the legitimate government, thus preserving Lebanon's unity, independence, and the integrity of its soil.

With regard to the Islamic world, it is known that the Kingdom is located at its heart. From its territory the light of Islam has spread and on its territory stand the two holiest places. Out of commitment to the place of honor that God has bestowed on the Kingdom, it spares no efforts to provide facilities for Muslims from the East and the West to perform the rites of pilgrimage and the small pilgrimage and to ensure safety and comfort for them.

This responsibility has made it incumbent upon the Kingdom to carry the standard of the call to Islamic solidarity and to exert maximum efforts to boost the Islamic nation's capabilities in all fields.

Within this framework his majesty is always anxious that the Kingdom should contribute with constructive efforts in accordance with the dicates of its Islamic duty to the strengthening and development of ties of cooperation between the Islamic countries in order to enable them to stand against atheism and subversive principles and to protect them against any distortion of, or deviation from, the creed. The Kingdom also supports the various causes of the Islamic world, whether they be the causes of liberation, the achievement of equality and equal opportunity, the causes of overcoming backwardness, the achievement of development, or the causes of the Islamic minorities.

His majesty has also been anxious that the Kingdom should contribute effectively to the efforts by the ICO for the restoration of Jerusalem and preservation of its Arab and Islamic character by preserving its heritage, culture, and originality. This is in addition to the Kingdom's stand toward solving the problems and crises from which the Islamic world is suffering and which are threatening its safety, stability, and unity such as the Iraq-Iran war, with all its tragic implications, and the Soviet occupation of Afghanistan.

On the other hand, it is known that the Kingdom was among the signatories of the San Francisco charter under which the United Nations organization was established. Ever since that day the Kingdom's belief in the importance of that organization and the political objectives for which its charter has been drawn up never faltered; it contributes effectively to the activities of the world organization and its agencies and believes in the importance and vitality of such cooperation.

Within this framework the Kingdom believes in world peace as one of the objectives of its foreign policy. It also believes in laying down principles of justice in dealing with countries in the economic, political, and social spheres. The Kingdom considers this to be the path to world peace, stability, and prosperity. Out of the Kingdom's belief that world peace should be established on firm grounds of economic stability that would enable the Third World peoples to achieve their right to live in self-sufficiency and dignity and pave the way and provide the necessary means to establish a balanced relationship between economic development and political stability between all the countries and particularly the developing countries, his majesty has been anxious that the Kingdom should effectively contribute to all aspects of such activity. The Kingdom's distinguished position in international action in its capacity as a developing country that has made great pioneering progress on the path to economic and social development has won it the world's admiration; the moderation that has characterized its international policies has qualified it to play major roles in this field.

Therefore, the motive behind all the achievements accomplished during the era of His Majesty King Fahd, may God preserve him, is not merely to assume a leading role or the search for a pioneering role, but rather, in the final analysis, to primarily achieve the higher national interest. Diplomacy is no more than the means to serve the citizen. The ultimate objective of Saudi foreign policy, like any successful foreign policy, is to be able to realize the requirements of national security and achieve the Saudi people's aspirations for economic, social, and cultural development in general internally, and to serve the interests of the Saudi people and the Saudi citizen abroad. Consequently, the major achievements accomplished in this field are an integral part of the achievements being accomplished in all the other sectors of the government which all are designed to bring happiness and prosperity to the citizen and provide security, stability, and national progress.

PDRY

Cooperation Protocol Signed With Soviet Union

GF231750 Aden Domestic Service in Arabic
1630 GMT 23 May 85

[Text] A protocol for economic cooperation between the PDRY and the Soviet Union was signed at the Planning Ministry this morning. The protocol provides for the continuation of work in Wadi Hadramawt, Ahwar, and Shu'bayn in addition to new projects, including (Al-Hiqah), and (Absid) dams and land reclamation around them in Abyan Governerate.

In the field of energy, the protocol provides for the completion of the electrothermal project and the completion of oil drilling and prospecting operations. In the field of health, the protocol provides for the completion of the maternity and pediatrics hospital next year and the completion of the building of the Central Committee. In the field of fisheries, the protocol stresses the necessity of completing and operating the fishing port next year and preparing and submitting long-term studies on the sectors of petroleum, minerals, electricity, water, and soil.

The protocol was signed on behalf of the PDRY by Brother Dr Faraj ibn Ghanim, minister of planning and chairman of the PDRY's side in the standing committee for economic and technical cooperation between the PDRY and the Soviet Union; and on behalf of the Soviet Union by Comrade Osadchuk, deputy chairman of the USSR State Committee for Foreign Economic Relations and chairman of the Soviet side in the standing committee.

AL-AKHBAR Cited on Foiling Embassy Bomb Threat

NC240643 Cairo Domestic Service in Arabic 0525 GMT 24 May 85

[From the Press Review]

[Text] Under the headline "Terrorism Once Again" *AL-AKHBAR* says: It seems that terrorism has become the prevailing language of some regimes. They use it to install fear and to impose their views. Giving shelter to the most fanatic terrorists has even become a source of pride for some regimes. We say this on the occasion of yesterday's statement issued by the Interior Ministry on foiling an attempt to blow up a booby-trapped car targeted at the U.S. Embassy in Cairo.

The Egyptian security branch has once again proven their efficiency in protecting the country and in confronting any dangers that face the country. This branch is becoming a constant source of pride for us. This is not a compliment but a proven fact, comparing the rare violent acts in Egypt with what takes place in the most advanced and developed countries. The paper expresses its belief that the disclosure of the details of how the security branch confronted and foiled this attempt, while it was still in its preparatory stage, gives us the right to be proud indeed that Egypt is the country of security and safety.

AL-AKHBAR concludes its editorial by hailing the Egyptian security men, who in their daily work prove their nationalism and loyalty to Egypt.

'Abd al-Majid on Libyan-Sudanese Rapprochement

PM231619 London AL-MAJALLAH in Arabic 22-28 May 85 p 23

[Unattributed report: "'Ismat 'Abd al-Majid Says: We Have Not and Will Not Interfere in Sudan and We Have Received No Request for Reconsideration of Integration"]

[Text] Commenting on the Khartoum-datelined report about cool relations between the Egyptian and Sudanese people, [Egyptian Foreign Minister] Dr 'Ismat 'Abd al-Majid had the following to say to *AL-MAJALLAH*: I do not sense any coolness in relations. Sudan is going through a natural transitional period after the popular revolution. Coolness between the Egyptian and Sudanese peoples is inconceivable.

He added: We are holding contacts at all official and popular levels. A Doctors' Association delegation has visited Khartoum, and so have delegations representing the various parties.

Dr 'Abd al-Majid stressed that Egypt does not interfere in any Sudanese affairs. But, he added, our feelings and sentiments are with the Sudanese people and Egypt will do whatever it can to serve the interests of the Sudanese people. This, he said, is my feeling as an Egyptian citizen, before the fact that I am the foreign minister.

On the future of integration, Dr 'Abd al-Majid said: The Egyptian Government has received no official request for a reconsideration of integration between the two countries, and we have received no message indicating a desire to discontinue or overlook integration.

As regards Libya and its recent rapprochement with Sudan, Dr 'Abd al-Majid said: We welcome the restoration of relations between the two countries, but our information is that the Libyan delegation was not as enthusiastically received as some people claim. There were some excesses on the part of 'Abd al-Salam Jallud, and also the fact that some of the aides were armed offended some sensitivities.

'Abd al-Majid Condemns Killings in Lebanon

NC231553 Cairo MENA in Arabic 1410 GMT 23 May 85

[Text] Cairo, 23 May (MENA) — Egyptian Foreign Minister Dr 'Ismat 'Abd al-Majid said that Egypt follows with sorrow and pain, and strongly condemns, the killings in Lebanon and the attacks against the Palestinian brothers in the refugee camps.

He said: Egypt affirms its firm stand in support of Lebanon's independence and sovereignty and the freedom of its political decision and will. Once again we reject and fully condemn the shedding of Arab blood and the use of gunfire instead of logic and civilized dialogue in confronting problems.

Dr 'Abd al-Majid added: The national, historic, and humanitarian responsibility that all Lebanese and Arab parties shoulder concerning the bloody events in fraternal Lebanon makes it incumbent upon us all to stand together and to confront the national fragmentation which is about to destroy the reputation and standing of the Arab nation because of the actions of a group of citizens.

Dr 'Abd al-Majid added that the Egyptian Foreign Ministry has been in continuous communication with Egyptian Ambassador in Beirut Nuhad 'Asqalani in order to follow up the serious developments in Lebanon. He said that he had discussed this subject and was checking on the deterioration of the situation in Lebanon with various ambassadors, including the British ambassador in Cairo, with whom he met today. The same subject has been discussed with Jordanian officials.

Ghali Interviewed on Ties With Israel, Arab World

GF232000 Kuwait AL-QABAS in Arabic 22 May 85 p 11

[Interview with Dr Butrus Butrus Ghali, minister of state for foreign affairs, by *AL-QABAS* correspondent Labib al-Siba'i in Cairo — date not given]

[Excerpts] [Al-Siba'i] Don't the current Arab circumstances represent a starting point for the restoration of Arab-Egyptian relations? What is your conception of Egypt's role in achieving this restoration through an Egyptian initiative?

[Ghali] In my estimation the issue is not related to the current Arab circumstances as much as it is basically related to the existence of awareness and the assessment of responsibility and real desire to create a positive move in a brave manner that would face the fact with frankness. This can only be achieved by

ignoring threats and blackmail. I can affirm that the restoration of relations between Egypt and the rest of the Arab countries are not an Egyptian demand but a pan-Arab demand which favors the whole Arab nation, including Egypt. Certainly, a step like this will bolster the Arab stance and will support it in its confrontation with the outside world in general. It is regrettable that we cannot disagree without disputing or have similar views without shutting off discussion and dialogue. Anyway, I am not concerned with the official form of diplomatic relations, the hoisting of flags or with the exchange of diplomats as much as I am concerned with the real solidarity among the sons of the Arab nation.

Here I would like to point out that the bonds among the sons of the Arab nation exist and have never been affected by political resolutions because they are stronger and deeper than these resolutions. Perhaps this explains the presence of more than 2 million Egyptians wooking in various Arab countries and the presence of thousands of youth from the Arab Mashriq and Maghrib countries at our academies and unversities despite the non-existence of diplomatic relations.

About Egypt's role in achieving the restoration of Arab relations, Egypt has been announcing with sincerity its good intentions and honest desire to overcome past obstacles and negativity and its desire for the restoration of Egyptian-Arab relations.

[Al-Siba'i] What is the fate of the Jordanian-Palestinian agreement in light of the Israeli-U.S. stubbornness in rejecting any negotiations with PLO elements?

[Ghali] I regard the agreement signed between King Husayn and PLO Executive Chairman Yasir 'Arafat on 11 February 1985 as important. Moreover it can be a positive turning point in the history of our struggle for the rights of the Palestinian people but this will not take place without the awareness and the appreciation of all the other sides in the significance of this step and the importance of responding to it in a sufficient manner.

We have never imagined that its implementation is an easy process and that it can be achieved within a limited number of days or weeks. The Egyptian assessment of the process was clear and appreciative. It will need persistant work and followup and demand maximum Arab solidarity. I believe that if we lose hope and determination to confront the first obstacle, we will not exert any effort or achieve anything. Desperation is the weak justification for not making a move. It is also the beginning of surrender.

[Al-Siba'i] What is the condition of Egyptian-Israeli relations 6 years after the Camp David Accords?

[Ghali] Normal relations, with the understanding that they are affected negatively or positively by the stances and policies of the Israeli Government. On our part, Egypt respects precisely the peace accords that were signed between Egypt and Israel. The accords represent the large framework within which our relations with Israel depend, between relations of cold peace or a warmer peace. All these depend on Israel's positions toward the Palestinian issue, the Lebanese issue and the problems between Egypt and Israel.

[Al-Siba'i] What are the dimensions of the relations after the Taba talks, the issue of Egypt's sovereignty on its territories and the current situation due to the restrictions that are being imposed on Egyptian sovereignty by the current security arrangements in the Camp David Accords.

[Ghali] There are no restrictions on Egyptian sovereignty, but with regard to the security arrangements, they were decided with Egypt's approval concerning Egyptian territories. The same thing happens to Israel concerning "Israeli territories." But Egyptian sovereignty is a total sovereignty on every inch of Egyptian territories. I would like to add that even the security arrangements in the agreement are temporary in nature and when the appropriate time comes it will be possible to amend or cancel them.

[Al-Siba'i] Isn't it about time to restore the normal warmth in Egyptian-Soviet relations?

[Ghali] I believe that this has started to take place and that we have succeeded in tackling the majority of the problems that disturbed the atmosphere of relations between Cairo and Moscow and that the cold winds are not blowing on these relations anymore, whether from the north toward the south or from south toward the north. The relations between the two countries will witness remarkable improvements.

Armed Forces Command Issues Communique No 1,843

JN231726 Baghdad Voice of the Masses in Arabic 1700 GMT 23 May 85

[Communique No 1,843 issued by the Armed Forces General Command on 23 May 1985]

[Text] In the name of God, the merciful, the compassionate.

The men of Iraq, who are resolutely and nobly defending their land and sons, are, God willing, capable of imposing justice and peace and defeating the evils of the aggressors.

The following is a summary of operations for last night and today:

1. The brave helicopter pilots continued their daring attacks on enemy units east of Tigris, dealing effective blows. They destroyed five boats, eight infantry positions, and five troop assembly points, and returned with their planes safe and triumphant.

2. Using various types of weapons, our forward units pounded enemy positions, gun emplacements, and observation posts in the central sector, killing five, wounding others, and destroying two infantry positions, two observation posts, and one mortar emplacement. Elsewhere in the same sector, one of our combat patrol units attacked a number of enemy positions and safely withdrew after inflicting losses in life and equipment and destroying a number of enemy positions.

3. One enemy soldier was killed in the northern sector.

4. One infantry position was destroyed in the East Basra sector.

5. A group of one of our forward Units east of Tigris found a big boat that had been left by the enemy in a previous battle. The boat was towed to our positions.

6. The tyrant clique's forces shelled Mandali suburbs, Al-Shihabi, and Tuwaylah with heavy artillery.

7. New groups of Iranian soldiers sought refuge with our forward units. They were safely evacuated to the rear.

[Signed] The Armed Forces General Command, 23 May 1985

Further on Palestinian Activities in Amman

'Arafat Holds News Conference

JN231258 Paris Radio Monte Carlo in Arabic 1200 GMT 23 May 85

[Fu'ad Na'im Dispatch from Amman]

[Text] PLO Executive Committee Chairman Yasir 'Arafat held a news conference in Amman this afternoon in which he said that armed groups from the Amal movement, the Lebanese Army's 6th Brigade, and Syria's Al-Asad Battalion have been trying to destroy the camps of Sabra, Shatila, and Burj al-Barajinah in Beirut for the past 4 days. He said these groups entered and destroyed the Gaza Hospital in the Sabra Camp. He added that these groups killed some doctors and nurses and partially burned the hospital. 'Arafat said that currently fighting is taking place in the Shatila camp outskirts and the remaining part of the Sabra camp. He asserted that the camps are being subjected to artillery and rocket bombardment and that tanks and heavy machineguns are currently in operation against the three camps. 'Arafat said that at the same time five camps are being besieged by the Lebanese Army and Amal south of the Al-Litani River: Al-Bus, Al-Rashidiyah, Burj al-Shamali, Burj Rahhal, and Al-Qasimiyah. Directing his accusation at Amal, Abu 'Ammar [Yasir 'Arafat] said:

[Begin recording] I can say that the operations Amal claimed to have mounted against the Zionist enemy [word indistinct] were false and that these operations were carried out by Palestinian and noble Lebanese elements. Amal had an agreement with the Israeli enemy to protect the Israeli Army from military operations that Palestinian and Lebanese resistance men are mounting against the Israeli Army. [End recording]

Abu 'Ammar saluted the Lebanese Progressive Socialist Party, the Hezbollah organization, and Al-Murabitun because they refused to participate in attacks against Palestinian camps. He said he hoped that the Palestinian unity which was effected following the aggression against the camps will lead to the restoration of Palestinian groups. On another level, 'Arafat said in reply to a question that he is not optimistic over the results of the forthcoming meeting between King Husayn and President Ronald Reagan, adding that the Untied States continues to be unyielding and dogmatic [dugmatiyah] on the Palestinian question. The Jordanian monarch will meet with President Reagan in Washington on 29 May.

Further on News Conference

JN231607 Amman Domestic Service in Arabic 1500 GMT 23 May 85

[Text] Amman — PLO Executive Committee Chairman Yasir 'Arafat has said that what the Palestinian camps in Beirut are facing now is part of the conspiracy that began on 4 June 1982 against the Palestinian presence in Lebanon. At a news conference he held in Amman this afternoon where he spoke about the situation in the Palestinian camps in Beirut, 'Arafat noted that the Sabra, Shatila, and Burj al-Barajinah camps in Beirut are being exposed to a barbaric aggression. They have been under artillery, rocket, and heavy machinegun fire for 4 days by the Amal movement militias and the Lebanese Army's 6th Brigade. These same militias and some other forces are also besieging five Palestinian refugee camps in southern Lebanon. These camps are the Al-Buss, Burj al-Shamali, Burj Rahhal, Al-Qasimiyah, and Al-Rashidiyah camps.

'Arafat said that this aggression against the Beirut camps came after the massacres at the Al-Miyah Wa Miyah and the 'Ayn al-Hulwah camps in southern Lebanon by the forces of Lahd and Ja'ja', which are supported by Israel. 'Arafat pointed out that the Amal militias have stormed the Gaza Hospital, destroyed everything in it, and killed or wounded some of the doctors and nurses along with some of the patients who were receiving treatment in the hospital.

'Arafat reviewed the circumstances of the Palestinians in Lebanon from the Israeli invasion of Lebanon in 1982 to the attacks the Amal movement forces are currently launching. He said that this aggression is part of the conspiracy of factional cantons in Lebanon to protect occupied Palestine's northern borders in order to achieve stability and security for the Zionist enemy. 'Arafat appealed to the Arab League, the UN Security Council, the Islamic states, the ICO, the Nonaligned Movement, the OAU, and all the forces of peace and liberation in the world to interfere and stop the current massacre against the Palestinians. 'Arafat pointed out that the forces of the Lebanese Progressive Socialist Party, the Hezbollah organization, and some of the Amal movement forces have not participated in the aggression. 'Arafat thanked the Al-Murabitun Movement, some of whose elements have fought to defend the camps.

In response to a question on the position adopted by some elements in the Palestine National Salvation Front and the statements made by its leaders denouncing the aggression, and the effect of this position on PLO unity, 'Arafat said: I hope that this indicates a positive course. 'Arafat expressed his thanks to Libyan President Mu'ammar al-Qadhdhafi for having denounced the aggression against the Palestinian camps in Beirut. Attending the news conference were Abu Jihad [Khalil al-Wazir], deputy commander in chief of the Palestinian Revolution Forces; 'Abd al-Rahim Ahmad, and Mahmud 'Abbas, members of the PLO Executive Committee.

'Arafat Receives PRC Envoy

JN240543 Amman AL-RA'Y in Arabic 24 May 85 p 1

[Text] Amman — Yasir 'Arafat received the Chinese charge d'affaires in Amman yesterday evening in the presence of Shaykh 'Abd al-Hamid al-Sa'ih and several Palestinian leaders. The charge d'affaires handed 'Arafat the Chinese Government's reply to his message on the current situation in the Palestinian camps.

The Chinese charge emphasized his country's support for Palestinian legitimacy represented by 'Arafat. During the meeting 'Arafat briefed him on the latest developments and thanked the Chinese Government for its firm stands on the PLO and the Palestinian people.

PLO's Milhim Returns to Amman After Visit to Moscow
JN240724 Amman AL-DUSTUR in Arabic
24 May 85 p 18

[Text] Amman *(AL-DUSTUR)* — PLO Executive Committee member Muhammad Milhim returned to Amman from Moscow yesterday after participating in talks with officials there on the latest developments in the Palestinian arena.

Karami Affirms No Solution Without Accord

NC231703 Beirut Domestic Service in Arabic 1530 GMT 23 May 85

[Excerpt] Prime Minister Rashid Karami received a delegation of Ra's al-Nab' citizens in his office this morning. They briefed him on the painful conditions the citizens of the area are experiencing.

Prime Minister Karami said that the state is doing its utmost to end the Lebanese tragedy in general and that of Ra's al-Nab' in particular. He affirmed that there can be no solution without a just legitimate authority, because it is the only guarantee for all the Lebanese.

Prime Minister Karami said: The current events are not in anyone's interest. The time to relax is coming despite the events. The state is doing all it can to calm the situation in various areas and to return all the evacuees to their homes.

Karami said that there can be no solution without an accord among all the Lebanese; alternative solutions are futile.

Karami assured everyone that partition and canton plans have been defeated and that the Lebanese people and homeland will remain united.

Junblatt Condemns Sinn al-Fil Car-Bomb Incident

NC231338 (Clandestine) Voice of the Mountain in Arabic to Lebanon 1300 GMT 23 May 85

[Text] Progressive Socialist Party leader Walid Junblatt has condemned the detonation of a booby-trapped car in Sinn al-Fil. He said: What happened in Sinn al-Fil was a horrendous crime which we strongly denounce and condemn. In view of what is happening, we must call on everyone to stop all acts of violence so that we may ride out this whirlpool, which is claiming innocent lives.

Walid Junblatt added: We emphasize the need to reach a comprehensive political solution to the Lebanese crisis. This is the indispensable basis and prerequisite to avoid any further devastation and destruction.

Birri Says Palestinians Must Surrender Arms

NC231707 Beirut Domestic Service in Arabic 1530 GMT 23 May 85

[Text] Minister Nabih Birri has received a message from Algerian President Chedli Bendjedid concerning the incidents in the Palestinian camps which affirms the need for exerting sincere efforts to end the fighting.

Meanwhile, answering a question on the situation in the Burj al-Barajinah camp, Minister Birri said: There is a cease-fire, but the Burj al-Barajinah area is still coming under shelling. He said that he welcomes investigation committees from all fraternal and friendly states.

Asked what is required of the Burj al-Barajinah camp, Birri said: The Palestinians must surrender their arms, if not to the Amal movement, then to one of our allied and friendly parties.

Minister Birri called Minister Joseph al-Hashim and asked him to secure medical supplies for the Sabra and Shatila camps.

Birri received former Minister Ilyas Saba who conveyed to Birri a message from former President Sulayman Franjiyah.

Birri Attends Meeting With PSP Officials

NC231337 (Clandestine) Voice of the Mountain in Arabic to Lebanon 1300 GMT 23 May 85

[Text] The current developments were assessed during a meeting held at Minister Nabih Birri's house today. In addition to Minister Birri, the meeting was attended by Muhsin Dallul, deputy leader of the Progressive Socialist Party [PSP]; Marwan Hamadah, and Akram Shuhayyib.

Within this framework, a PSP source made the following statement:

The PSP is working dilligently at more than one level to prevent the worsening of the situation in Beirut and the mountain and to achieve a political solution to the issue of the Palestinian camps, according to which the Palestinian National Salvation Front would assume its natural and objective responsibility confronting the suspect pro-'Arafat tendencies.

Amal Movement Envoys Leave for Damascus 23 May

NC231118 Beirut Domestic Service in Arabic 1030 GMT 23 May 85

[Text] The Amal movement sent its military official, Zakariya Hamzi, alias Abu Yahya, and Muhmud Abu Hamdan to Damascus today. They will meet with Syrian officials and brief them on recent developments in greater Beirut.

Clashes Continue Over Control of Palestinian Camps

Amal Renews Attack

NC231553 (Clandestine) Radio Free Lebanon in Arabic 1445 GMT 23 May 85

[Text] Attacks launched by the Amal movement and personnel of the 6th Brigade on the Sabra and Shatila camps have continued since 1430 today. Violent clashes involving artillery, rockets, and machineguns are now taking place.

The artillery of the Palestinian dissidents in the mountain is still shelling areas in the southern suburb of Beirut, particularly the positions of the Amal movement.

Shells are falling on some areas in West Beirut and along the outskirts of 'Ayn al-Rummanah and Al-Tahwitah. Casualties have been reported in 'Ayn al-Rummanah.

PLO Denies Amal Controls Camps

JN231714 Baghdad Voice of PLO in Arabic 1617 GMT 23 May 85

[Text] Brothers: In confirmation of the Palestinian military spokesman's statement on the false Amal movement claim of controlling the Palestinian refugee camps, we have just received the following cable from an officer of the Palestinian forces that are defending the Palestinian refugee camps in Beirut to brother Commander in Chief Abu 'Ammar [Yasir 'Arafat]. The following is the text of the cable:

From Lieutenant Colonel Samih Nasir to brother Commander in Chief Abu 'Ammar. Monte Carlo Radio said that Sabra and Shatila refugee camps had fallen to the Amal movement. We affirm to you that this news is untrue. The camp is still under the control of our Palestinian forces. Moreover, our Palestinian forces have gained control of some areas surrounding the Sabra camp. It is a revolution until victory.

Residential Areas Shelled

NC231717 Beirut Domestic Service in Arabic 1700 GMT 23 May 85

[Text] Residential areas in Beirut and its southern suburb are still coming under rocket fire from mountain positions.

At approximately 1920 tonight several areas came under artillery and rocket shelling, particularly Al-Shiyah, Al-Ghubayrah, Al-Ruways, Burj al-Barajinah, the airport road, the Kuwait Embassy area, Al-Janah, the municipal playground, the Arab University vicinity, Al-Fakihani, and the Al-Tariq al-Jadidah area.

The shelling from the mountain is continuing to this hour. Huge fires broke out in the camps and their outskirts and in residential areas in the southern suburb. Several casualties were reported among the citizens.

Shelling From Mountain Stops

NC231825 Beirut Domestic Service in Arabic 1800 GMT 23 May 85

[Text] A security source said tonight that the artillery and rocket shelling from Palestinian positions in Al-Shahhar al-Gharbi and Mansuriyat Bhamdun stopped at 2000, but that at approximately 2005 four shells landed near the Beau Rivage in the Al-Rawshah area.

The security sources said that more than 500 Grad rockets have landed in Beirut's southern suburb alone, apart from the long-range artillery shelling.

The sources could not specify the number of casualties among the citizens because they were many and ambulances were unable to come.

Meanwhile, a guarded calm prevails along the confrontation lines in Beirut, coupled with sporadic sniper fire.

Phalangist Statement on Fighting

NC231950 Beirut Voice of Lebanon in Arabic 1915 GMT 23 May 85

[Text] The Lebanese Forces Executive Committee held a meeting to discuss the explosion of a booby-trapped car in Sinn al-Fil and the incidents in Western Beirut. After the meeting, the following statement was issued:

1. The Lebanese Forces Executive Committee condemns the criminal act conducted against defenseless people in a popular area of Sinn al-Fil. The committee accuses Palestinian terrorism and its tools of engineering this action intending to ruin the entire situation in order to peddle suspicious local and regional schemes. The committee declares that it does not accept that the Lebanese citizens have again turned into a fuel for foreign disputes. The committee stresses its determination to combat terrorism by all means.

2. The Lebanese Forces Executive Committee believes that the recent incidents in West Beirut are a result of a Palestinian decision made by Yasir 'Arafat to return to the arena of Arab axes through Lebanon. It concerns us enough to declare that based on our Lebanese citizenship we refuse to return the crisis to its beginnings in the seventies and, consequently to the state that prevailed before 1982, when the Palestinian camps rebelled against the legitimate Lebanese authority. We also oppose any foreigner threatening by arms any Lebanese wherever he is. The Executive Committee, which denounces the killing of innocent people in Sinn al-Fil, also denounces and regrets the killing and wounding of people in West Beirut as a result of the current bloody armed conflict in Lebanon.

Cease-Fire Agreement Reached

NC240511 Beirut Domestic Service in Arabic 0300 GMT 24 May 85

[Text] An agreement for a final cease-fire was reached in Damascus last night following a meeting chaired by Syrian Vice President 'Abd al-Halim Khaddam. The session was also attended by representatives of the Amal Movement and the Palestinian National Salvation Front. The terms of the agreement are as follows:

1. A final and effective cease-fire is to take effect.

2. The 6th Brigade will be entrusted with the task of maintaining security in and around the Palestinian camps.

3. The roads will be reopened. This will be accompanied by the collection of weapons from the camps and their storage in a specified area under the supervision of a committee whose members will be agreed upon later.

4. A meeting will be held in Damascus, and will be attended by representatives of the Amal movement, the Palestinian National

Salvation Front, and the National Democratic Front. The purpose of the session will be to reach a full understanding.

Cease-Fire Violated

NC240520 Beirut Voice of Lebanon in Arabic 0315 GMT 24 May 85

[Text] Despite the conclusion of a cease-fire agreement in Damascus last night between the Amal movement and the Palestinian National Salvation Front under the auspices of Syrian Vice President 'Abd al-Halim Khaddam, fighting continued on the outskirts of the Palestinian camps and in the southern suburb. Rockets and machineguns are being used in the fighting, which was still raging when this news bulletin was prepared.

238 Killed in Fighting

NC240552 (Clandestine) Radio Free Lebanon in Arabic 0445 GMT 24 May 85

[Excerpt] According to our latest security reports, residents of the Palestinian camps and Amal militiamen are trading fire with mortars, flat trajectory weapons, and rockets.

Amal sources said that yesterday's fighting and the Palestinian shelling of Beirut from the mountain areas left 24 people dead and 100 wounded. This brings the overall figures to 238 dead and 900 wounded.

Camp Fighting Enters 5th Day

NC240627 Beirut Voice of Lebanon in Arabic 0515 GMT 24 May 85

[Text] Fighting is now going on along the Al-Barbir, Ra's al-Nab', Museum, Al-Tibbiyah, and Du Chayla Stadium lines in Beirut. Rockets and automatic weapons are being used. The Sodeco and Ra's al-Nab' lines were the scene of isolated fighting this morning in which flat trajectory weapons and RPG's were used.

'Arayya came under sniper fire, while fighting occurred along the Dahr al-Wahsh-'Alayh line at 0530 today. The camps war enters its fifth day today. Firefights were reported this morning along the Sports City and Sabra lines. The Shatila, Sabra, and Burj al-Barajinah camps also came under artillery fire after 0130 today. Amal movement fighters made several attempts to advance and storm a number of positions in the camps.

Palestinians Attempt Advance

NC240711 (Clandestine) Radio Free Lebanon in Arabic 0645 GMT 24 May 85

[Text] Fighting erupted anew between Amal militias and Palestinians when the rocket launchers deployed in the mountain resumed shelling Beirut's southern suburb and the outskirts of the Palestinian camps. Rockets landed on the areas of Jallul and Mahattat al-Dana.

Meanwhile Palestinians, supported by Al-Murabitun men, made an attempt to advance in order to seize the Ghazzah Hospital area. However, it is not yet known if the attackers have mananged to infiltrate into the Ghazzah Hospital where fierce fighting is raging. Shells are now falling on the Sports City and on the peripheries of the Kuwaiti Embassy and Al-Zahra' Hospital.

Palestinians Refuse Negotiations

NC240935 (Clandestine) Radio Free Lebanon in Arabic 0845 GMT 24 May 85

[Text] The security report that we received a short while ago indicates that fierce fighting is now raging between members of the Amal movement and Palestinian gunmen along the Al-Da'uq, Sabra, and Ghazzah Hospital combat lines. Heavy machineguns, rockets, and artillery are being used. Al-Tariq al-Jadidah has just come under rocket fire from launchers deployed in the mountains. According to reports from West Beirut, Palestinian gunmen managed to advance along the Arab University and Ghazzah Hospital combat lines during their assault operations and counterattacks last night and this morning.

Palestinian units, supported by members of Al-Murabitun and the Mustafa al-Turk [secretary general of the Supporters of the Revolution Movement] group, were able to seize the Ghazzah Hospital. However, they were forced to withdraw after 1000 due to their failure to drive Amal gunmen from their positions facing the hospital.

Meanwhile, the Palestinians and their allies surrounded the Arab University's engineering school, thus forcing Amal gunmen to withdraw from the area.

In another development, a Palestinian radio message was intercepted at approximately 1000. The message states that the Palestinians refuse to resume negotiations while the camps are under military pressure.

According to the message, the Palestinians have stressed that unless their wounded are evacuated by noon today, they will consider themselves absolved of any commitment.

Palestinians Ambush Patrol

NC240928 Beirut Voice of Lebanon in Arabic 0915 GMT 24 May 85

[Text] Security sources have just told us that a Palestinian unit ambushed a 6th Brigade patrol in the Al-Da'uq area at 0900.

A troop carrier was destroyed and a number of soldiers were wounded.

The sources said that seven soldiers including two officers of the 6th Brigade were slightly wounded today.

The same sources also told us that this morning five bulldozers demolished some houses and buildings in Al-Da'uq.

PNSF Denies Agreement Reached

JN241246 Paris Radio Monte Carlo in Arabic 1200 GMT 24 May 85

[Louis Faris dispatch from Damascus]

[Text] In an official statement issued by the leadership of the Palestine National Salvation Front [PNSF] here, Khalid 'Abd al-Majid denied reports that an agreement had been reached between the Amal movement and the PNSF in Damascus — the agreement which was announced in Beirut and in accordance with which it has been reported that the Palestinians will hand over their weapons to the 6th Brigade. 'Abd al-Majid said: These reports are baseless.

A meeting has taken place between the PNSF leadership and Vice President 'Abd al-Halim Khaddam. The following topics were discussed as a basis for any agreement: First, ceasing fire; Second, withdrawing Amal armed men from around the camps and ending armed manifestations; Third, allowing the Red Cross to enter the camps to evacuate the dead and wounded; Fourth, the Lebanese Democratic National Front and its leader Walid Junblatt will control the cease-fire; Fifth, a meeting will be held in Damascus later which will be attended by the Amal movement, the Lebanese Democratic National Front, and the PNSF in the presence of the Syrian side in order to discuss the organization of future Lebanese-Palestinian relations. This is what really was discussed with Khaddam. 'Abd al-Majid said the other reports are incorrect.

5 Soldiers Killed, 11 Wounded in Clash in South

NC231409 (Clandestine) Voice of the Mountain in Arabic to Lebanon 1300 GMT 23 May 85

[Text] According to the latest reports, 5 oldiers from the 1st Brigade have been martyred, 5 others are missing, and 11 soldiers have been wounded and evacuated to the hospitals in Jubb Jannin and the Al-Biqa'.

Agent Antoine Lahd's militia ambushed a 1st Brigade reconnaissance patrol at Al-Maramil near Tawmat Niha at 1045 today. A clash ensued during which one soldier was martyred and nine others were wounded.

The incident later developed into clashes which involved various types of weapons, between units of the 1st Brigade positioned along the Mashgharah-Tawmat Niha line and Agent Lahd's militiamen positioned west of Tawmat Niha.

Lahd's artillery emplacements situated in Tallat Dayr al-Muzayri'ah and Tallat 'Ayn Majdalayn east of Jazzin participated in the shelling. In another development, national resistance fighters have attacked an occupation forces position near Bayt Lif with 107mm rockets.

They also detonated an explosive device as an occupation forces patrol passed between Marwahin and Rumyah. National resistance fighters have also shelled an agent Lahd militia position in the Al-Salihani area.

Foreign Minister al-Shar' on Situation in Lebanon

Comments on 'Expected Summit'

JN231344 Paris Radio Monte Carlo in Arabic 1200 GMT 23 May 85

[Text] Syrian Foreign Minister Faruq al-Shar' held a press conference today at the end of his official visit to France. The press conference was attended by a crowd of Arab and foreign journalists. At the beginning, Minister al-Shar' thanked France for the warm hospitality accorded to him, indicating that France has achieved better understanding of Syria's stands and that this visit is a new starting point in the field of cooperation between the two countries. The Syrian foreign minister said his talks with French officials centered mainly on Lebanon, to which France, as does Syria, attaches great importance. He said that Mitterrand welcomed Syria's readiness to help its Lebanese brothers.

Regarding the expected summit between Presidents al-Asad and al-Jumayyil, the Syrian foreign minister said: The summit is not a matter of protocol; the aim is to come up with tangible results that will help the Lebanese regain hope and march toward national reconciliation. Consequently, any summit will require good preparations that contribute to its success, improve the Lebanese situation, and realize some progress.

Regarding Damascus' stand toward the Lebanese Forces, Faruq al-Shar' replied: While we hope to see some development in these forces' stands and an end to their collaboration with Israel, we are waiting for a translation of the forces' new stands into practice. We are in accord with all Lebanese without exception, and, as for us, there is no alternative to the Lebanese national accord. The Syrian foreign minister refused to go into the details on the fighting taking place in Beirut and merely accused 'Arafat elements of fabricating all that has happened to undermine the accord in Lebanon.

Neutral Lebanon 'Impractical'

JN240520 Damascus Domestic Service in Arabic 0315 GMT 24 May 85

[Text] Paris — Foreign Minister Faruq al-Shar' has stressed that what is being concocted in Amman between King Husayn and 'Arafat does not at all serve the cause of peace in the Middle East, but constitutes a new step in the course of the Camp David accords. Speaking at a press conference in Paris, Al-Shar' said: We are against the Amman agreements because they are considered a concession and capitulation to the Israelis at the expense of the Palestinian people's legitimate rights. Al-Shar' emphasized that Syria aspires to independence and unity for Lebanon — both land and people — within the framework of maintaining its historical Arab character, indicating that the Lebanese crisis can be solved only through national accord conducive to reconciliation.

Asked if Syria supports the neutralization of Lebanon under the supervision of an international force, Al-Shar' said: The neutralization of Lebanon ignores the fact that Lebanon and the Lebanese people are part of the Arab homeland. By talking about neutralizing Lebanon, we try to segregate Lebanon from its Arab fold. This solution is impractical and means severing ties between Leabnon and its Arab fold, particularly Syria, which together with Lebanon constituted one country until the beginning of last centrury. Moreover, the Lebanese and Syrian peoples speak one language and share a common history. Therefore, we cannot agree to the neutralization of Lebanon.

Asked whether UNIFIL can contribute to establishing peace in Leabnon after the departure of the last Israeli soldier from Lebanese territory, Al-Shar' said: UNIFIL should be deployed on the Lebanese-Israeli international border in accordance with UN Security Council Resolution No 435. Any other proposal about the deployment of UNIFIL in other areas can be interpreted as an invitation to partition Lebanon.

The foreign minister denounced the kidnapping of innocent people, indicating that Syria is doing its best to ensure the release of the kidnapped persons.

He emphasized that Syria condemns terrorism, particularly those acts aimed at innocent people. Meanwhile, he stressed that the Lebanese national resistance movement against the Israeli occupiers of Lebanon is a heroic action that deserves both appreciation and admiration.

Speaks on Beirut Clashes

JN231908 Damascus Domestic Service in Arabic 1815 GMT 23 May 85

[Text] Paris — Foreign Minister Faruq al-Shar' has said that it is wrong to say that there is fighting going on between the Palestinians and the Amal movement in Lebanon. There were, however, provocations by Yasir 'Arafat's men which developed into fighting. In an interview with French television yesterday, Al-Shar' added that a Palestine National Salvation Front [PNSF] delegation visited Lebanon 10 days ago, met with a number of Lebanese leaders, and visited Palestinian refugee camps in Lebanon where it was warmly welcomed by Palestinians citizens there.

The foreign minister affirmed that the provocations by a number of 'Arafat's proponents were an attempt to undermine the PNSF's constructive efforts. Al-Shar' explained that it is the duty of the international community to seek to achieve an unconditional withdrawal of the Israeli forces from Lebanon. He said: We have given many sacrifices and a great deal of assistance in order to help our Lebanese brothers achieve accord and stop the bloodshed. We are determined to continue this course. Al-Shar' affirmed that our good relations with all the concerned Lebanese sides enable us to extend effective assistance. Regarding the possibility of convening a national Lebanese conference, Al-Shar' said that the Lebanese held a number of useful and successful conferences in Geneva, Lausanne, and Damascus. These conferences created a solid basis toward achieving national accord and implementing what had been agreed upon will be sufficient to restore Lebanon to normal.

Sharon Explains Contacts With U.S. on Lebanon
TA240745 Jerusalem GOVERNMENT PRESS OFFICE in English 23 May 85

[Interview with Ari'el Sharon, trade and industry minister, on the 'Erev Hadash television program with moderator Dan Margalit on 23 May]

[Text] Q: U.S. Ambassador to Israel Samuel Lewis said yesterday on Israel TV's "Moqed" program that some months before the Lebanon war, he and another American diplomat, Philip Habib, heard from you, on your farm, about the "Big Pines" plan which spoke of the IDF's invasion of Lebanon, including the fact that it would reach Beirut.

A: I never spoke with Ambassador Lewis or with Philip Habib about the details of any operational plan, about details of military moves, and certainly I didn't mention the name of a "pines" plan or any other name. Nor did any such conversation take place on my farm. At that time I held many meetings, as did other ministers, and I made clear the danger of a war in Lebanon if the terrorism didn't stop. Such meetings were held with Ambassador Lewis, with Ambassador Habib, with other representatives, with media representatives — I recall talking with Bill Safire of *THE NEW YORK TIMES* in Alexandria, I remember giving an interview on the subject to *NEWSWEEK*. There was a good deal of talk on these issues. It was part of my position and my duty to make every effort to prevent war — this was part of my efforts to prevent war — in order to warn against the possibility of war if the terrorism didn't stop. Never, but never, did I speak about any operational plan. The talk that did take place, to which he refers — if he is referring to that, because otherwise he's referring to something that never happened — took place at the Foreign Ministry in the presence of between ten and fifteen persons, including senior officials of the Foreign Ministry and the Defense Ministry. A protocol was made. This was a legitimate talk as part of our efforts — mine and that of other ministers whose duty it was, certainly of Prime Minister Menahem Begin — to do everything to prevent war and to bring about...

Q: In other words, there was no such meeting at your farm?

A' (Former Deputy Foreign Minister) Yedhuda Ben-Me'ir says that there was a worrisome talk between Sharon and Lewis; (Former Communications Minister) Mordekay Tzipori says that Lewis spoke the truth; (Police Minister) Hayim Bar-Lev says he's known for a year that such a talk took place. Are they all wrong?

A: Not one of them was present at the meeting. Present at the meeting were Ambassador Lewis, Ambassador Draper and senior officials from the Foreign Ministry and the Defense Ministry. There was never such a talk at my farm. There was a talk at the Foreign Ministry — I think it was on a Friday — within the framework of a legitimate, open meeting for which a protocol was made. Never were operational details given, not a name, not forces, not dates. All that was stated was that (war) would be inevitable if the terrorism didn't stop — and this was within the framework of our efforts to prevent war. As for the question about things being stated wrongly, there are many things that are stated wrongly. You yourself, two weeks ago wrote about a commission of inquiry (into the Lebanon war) things which I want to term not as incorrect and not as a lie — and this relates to a person who is accepted, known, an intellectual, who hosts programs, writes distinguished articles. You stated that my lawyers were working intensively on preparations for a commssion of inquiry. What lawyers? What preparations? You wrote it, it was published in *HA'ARETZ* about two weeks ago. So when it comes to accurate or inaccurate statements, I would suggest that we be cautious. We've all had experience in these matters. For quite a few years I've seen the cynical use of things which are so completely incorrect.

Q: Mr. Sharon, there are certain things which I of course can't talk about, but let me ask you — sincerely, and not just to irk you — why should we believe your version and not that of Lewis which is supported by three distinguished and well-known Israeli figures?

A: I don't ask you to believe my version. I'm speaking about an official meeting at the Foreign Ministry, in the small meeting room of the Foreign Ministry. I want to say that the first time Philip Habib was on our farm was in September 1982 — that's the first time he was there, he was never there before that. You simply have to take the protocol of that meeting and look at it. After all, the people you mentioned — Ha'im Bar-Lev wasn't there, Tzipori wasn't there, Yehuda Ben-Me'ir wasn't there.

Q: (Ben-Me'ir) says he received a report about a talk that took place and that this was a worrisome talk in terms of what you told the Americans.

A: I think that in that talk not even one operational detail was supplied, not even the most minor detail. It was definitely stated that if the terrorism from Lebanon didn't stop, Israel would have no choice but to take measures in order to warn against and prevent war. Incidentally, such talks were also held with the Egyptians. I can say now that I spoke about this subject with the most senior figures in Egypt, and I can even tell you how they reacted. Their reaction was: If the terrorists don't stop, hit them.

Q: Mr. Sharon, can you tell us who in Egypt said this to you?

A: Perhaps the day will come and I'll tell you. Egypt is a country which we all know well...

Q: Official Egyptians?

A: Highly official, highly official. That's what was said.

Q: Then there's something not clear. Did we inform the Americans in advance that we were going to war, or not? Because this evokes another question: For example, at the time the question came up of whether the Americans agreed that the IDF would at least go in 40 kms? Someone said Haig agreed, or that his words could be taken to mean that he agreed Israel should go in 40 kms. That shows that Israel did inform the U.S. in advance about the war.

A: We have to decide. Did I deceive or reveal? After all, there are those who consistently allege that I deceived: You yourself have used such expressions in your articles. You have to decide,

like the others: Did I deceive or did I reveal? First they accused me of deceiving; now they're accusing me of revealing. Fine, make up your minds: Did I deceive or reveal?

Q: I'm not a party to the debate, but those who say these things maintain that in part you deceived and in part you revealed.

A: That's why I said that despite my opinion that a commission of inquiry could cause damage to Israel, it could drag the country into an internal struggle that would last years — I have never opposed a commission of inquiry, and if this subject comes up for a vote in the Cabinet I won't vote for it but I won't vote against. I have made this clear many times, and as far as I am concerned this is a subject which has to be examined. But they have to decide what they want. Let me explain: I also discussed the subject with the U.S. secretary of defense and the secretary of state in May 1982. And I warned against possibilities that could arise. Incidentally, the Americans never gave a green light. What they said — and here, too, Ambassador Lewis wasn't too accurate; and by the way, the translation of his remarks wasn't too accurate either, but here, too, he wasn't accurate — what the Americans said was that should we be forced to act (because they also understood that it was inconceivable that terrorism should go on striking at us), do it so that it's proportionate to the dimensions of what's happening to you.

Q: Theoretically, did you tell them that if so, it could go to Beirut?

A: We never spoke of these things, about where we would go, and so forth. These plans existed before I assumed the position of defense minister at that time. Never did I go into the details of any plan. I would say this is a furor which has no place. I've been a witness to manifestations of cynical, political internal use for some years — I'm aware of these things. The Americans certainly knew that under no cicumstances would Israel be able to accept a situation in which its citizens were harmed, whether in Israel or elsewhere. They never knew details of operational plans. Incidentally, there were people, I remember, in 1981, who attacked us for ruining relations with our greatest friend — and in my eyes the U.S. is our greatest friend — by not revealing to them in advance, for example, our attack on the nuclear reactor in Iraq. We have to decide. And the Americans themselves said, don't surprise us — but I want to point out that they themsevles never requested precise details, nor did it ever enter my head to give the Americans or anyone else any operational details. And I in fact did not do so.

Margalit: Mr Sharon, thank you for being with us.

Arens Comments

TA240751 Jerusalem GOVERNMENT PRESS OFFICE in English 23 May 85

[Report on interview with Moshe Arens, minister without portfolio, on the 'Ever Hadash television program with moderator Dan Margalit on 23 May following the interview with Ari'el Sharon, minister of trade and industry, on his meeting with U.S. Ambassador Samuel Lewis and Philip Habib]

[Text] In another interview on the same program, Minister Without Portfolio Moshe Arens, asked to react to what Mr Sharon had just said and whether he supported the Sharon version or the Lewis version, said:

"I was ambassador to the U.S. for one year. I understand that Lewis hit a record of eight years. His experience undoubtedly far exceeds my own. But I think it's very unusual for an ambassador to engage in revelations and exposures, relating what was or was not said in certain meetings. I have to say that I am surprised. Although I didn't see the 'Moqed' program and I don't know exactly what was said there, this is something very unusual."

Asked whether he had informed the U.S. before the war that Israel might invade Lebanon, Mr Arens replied:

"That it might happen, certainly. That was clear to the Americans without our telling them. But all those who reported that the Americans gave a green light and that after we told them exactly what we were going to do they said okay, simply reported incorrectly. I don't know what their sources of information were, but it just shows you how much people can be misled and perhaps also mislead others here and there."

Schiffer Comments

TA231740 Jerusalem Domestic Service in Hebrew 1605 GMT 23 May 85

[Interview with political correspondent Shim'on Schiffer by announcer Avner Tavori — live]

[Text] [Tavori] Good evening. Perhaps we should first clarify the details that you know about in connection with the meeting that everyone seems to be talking about these days.

[Schiffer] Indeed, as Ari'el Sharon said, the meeting with Philip Habib and Morris Draper was held in the Foreign Ministry in Jerusalem and was attended by several other people from both sides, including U.S. Ambassador Samuel Lewis, and two senior Foreign Ministry officials: Hanan Bar-On and Eytan Bantzur, who is the director of the North America Division. Let us review the background for that meeting briefly: Philip Habib arrived in this region because of a dispute between Israel and the terrorists over the meaning of the cease-fire agreement. Israel argued that the cease-fire should apply everywhere, not only the northern border, and that it would not tolerate terrorist activity from any place ; whereas the terrorists claimed that they would only observe a cease-fire along the northern border. This was the background for many statements by Israeli leaders, and this was the background for the meeting between Minister Ari'el Sharon with Philip Habib in the Foreign Ministry. The story is really akin to "Rashomon" [Kurosawa film showing different versions of viewing a murder incident] , because every participant has come up with his own version. The U.S. participants in the meeting said that Minister Ari'el Sharon described a hypothetical situation: What could happen if the terrorists continued to attack Israel from many places. If that happened, Israel would have no choice but to operate against them. He then described the various options open to Israel, and spoke about the depth into which it would penetrate Lebanon for that purpose.

As part of my fact-finding work prior to the publication of my book [on the war in Lebanon], I met in Washington with one of the personalities who participated in that meeting, and he told me the following: Immediately after the meeting with Minister Ari'el Sharon, we felt deep shock — as he phrased it — from what we heard; we rushed to the U.S. consulate in Jerusalem and selected the most secret channel to report this to Washington — in a way that even you the Israelis would not be able to decode, he added with derision — and reported to then U.S. Secretary of State Alexander Haig about the conversation with Minister Sharon. The cable we sent was headlined: Ari'el Sharon is planning war deep inside Lebanon.

Then, as another senior member of the U.S. party told me, we recommended two things to Secretary Haig: One, that the United States approach Saudi Arabia, which in turn would approach the leaders of the terrorist organizations including Yasir 'Arafat, and issue an unambiguous warning against doing anything along the border and thereby providing Israel with a pretext for an operation deep inside Lebanon.

[Tavori] In other words, Sharon actually described intentions, while the Americans took this to mean...

[Schiffer, interrupting] Minister Sharon hypothesized. He did not report on an operational plan because at that stage there was no such plan, although there were plans for Lebanon — called "Citrus Fruit" or the various "Pine" plans, A and B — in the IDF's General Staff Command, but these plans had not yet been fully worked out and were not yet brought to the Cabinet. However, since in the opinion of the United States, at the time, in his capacity as defense minister, Ari'el Sharon was the strong man in the Israeli Cabinet, even his hypotheses or what he called things Israel would be forced to do for lack of any other choice would indeed be what Israel would do.

[Tavori] Minister Sharon disclosed today that he had met with senior Egyptian leaders and reported to them about Israel's intention to attack the terrorists in Lebanon. Can you clarify anything on this point?

[Schiffer] This could perhaps shed a different light on what the Americans are saying. Before the war, Minister Ari'el Sharon minced no words about Israel's intentions or his own, for that matter; he publicly spoke about what should be done in Lebanon, and in conversations with American figures he also talked about that. I can only presume that at that time he explained that here Israel would have to reach coordination with the United States on this issue, too. When he visited Egypt in February 1982, he described to then Egyptian Foreign Minister Kamal Hasan 'Ali what Israel's intentions were and told him that Israel was planning to enter Lebanon and handle the Palestinian problem and the problem of terrorism. Then — as I found out through a meeting with Kamal Hasan 'Ali — 'Ali warned Ari'el Sharon and told him: We would indeed be able to understand your entering Lebanon or your eliminating the terrorists from near the border, but I am warning you against entering Beirut or even getting near that place, because you would be bogged down by the Lebanese quagmire.

Shamir Calls for Pardon of Jewish Underground Members

TA231853 Jerusalem Domestic Service in Hebrew
1800 GMT 23 May 85

[Text] Vice Prime Minister Yitzhaq Shamir has said that as early as a few months ago he discussed with the prime minister the question of pardoning the Jewish underground members. He did not give me either a positive or a negative reply, Mr Shamir said. He added that the underground members should not be released through the usual proceedings of trial, punishment, and oppression which usually miss the purpose. Speaking with our correspondent Shalom Oren, Mr Shamir said that he does not regard a pardon as jeopardizing the entire legal system. Referring to capital punishment, Shamir said that in a country like ours, one should not give up on such a punishment which must be used in special cases of cruelty in order to deter. The vice prime minister participated this afternoon in the inauguration of the settlement of Ne'ot Adummim, the first of the six settlements the national unity government decided to set up.

Sharir, Demonstrators Support Capital Punishment

TA231628 Jerusalem Domestic Service in Hebrew
1600 GMT 23 May 85

[Text] Minister Avraham Sharir has begun discussing with his fellow ministers, the proposal of handing down capital punishment to terrorists, in a bid to obtain majority support for this proposal.

Approximately 1,000 people are currently demonstrating in central Jerusalem in support of capital punishment for Arab terrorists, and demanding the release of the Jewish terrorist organization detainees. Our correspondent Shlomo Raz reports that among the speakers at the demonstration are Minister Yosef Shapira and Knesset Member Ge'ula Kohen.

DAVAR Examines Relationship With Soviet Union

TA231054 Tel Aviv DAVAR in Hebrew
23 May 85 pp 1,2

["Exclusive" report from Washington by Amir Oren]

[Text] Yesterday Anatoliy Dobrynin, the Soviet ambassador in Washington, hosted his Israeli counterpart Me'ir Rosenne at the latter's request. According to Eastern European sources, the meeting was meant to clarify whether there was an improvement in the Soviet attitude toward Israel as evinced by public signals in Moscow media, such as the prominent place given to President Hayim Herzog's message on the occasion of victory day over Nazi Germany.

According to the sources, Dobrynin usually complies with Rosenne's requests to meet with him. However, the Soviet Union is interested in maintaining contact with an envoy on behalf of Prime Minister Shim'on Peres, "whereas Rosenne is considered to be Shamir's man."

The Soviets suspect that Foreign Minister Yitzhaq Shamir takes advantage of his annual meetings with his Soviet counterpart,

Andrey Gromyko, in the UN General Assembly and of the Dobrynin-Rosenne talks to advance the cause of the Likud and his personal status.

The sources add that Moscow is open to contacts with a personal envoy of Peres, at the level of a retired top Israeli ambassador "such as Gid'on Refa'el," who is not under Shamir's subordination and who will be able to faithfully represent the prime minister's position. It will be possible to maintain contacts with him in Moscow as well.

Elements in the Soviet leadership hope Peres and Minister 'Ezer Weizman will "exhibit pioneering spirit" and will agree to discuss a "package deal" to include, among other things, the renewal of diplomatic relations between the two countries, the participation of the Soviet Union in the political process in the Middle East, concessions regarding emigration of Jews from the Soviet Union, and Israeli-Soviet trade.

If Peres and Weizman strengthen their leadership and manage to consolidate support for their policy, the Soviets will exchange the initial feelers for meaningful talks.

If this happens, the Soviet Union will allow a gradual departure of Jews, initially in the form of family reunions. The Soviets assess that only 100,000 Jews want to leave the Soviet Union, and approximately one-quarter of them intend to settle in Israel. The Soviets are aware of the Arab criticism of such concessions, but they will react by recalling Jewish emigration from Arab countries. At the same time, the Soviets will ask Israel to compensate them for their willingness to risk this criticism and possible agitation among other nationalities in the Soviet Union, who will demand similar exit permits.

The compensation amounts to involving the Soviets in the political process, making Jewish emigration an entirely Israeli-Soviet issue which will not hamper U.S.-Soviet relations, and clarifying Israel's nuclear policy — an issue which particularly worries the Soviet Union at present.

It has been learned that the Soviet Union's concern about a nuclear flare-up between the powers stemming from Israel was raised in the "unofficial" part of the talks between Gromyko and his counterpart, George Shultz in Vienna. The East European sources say the Americans also share the Soviet concern. Pointing at Israeli-American strategic cooperation and publications regarding the deployment of "Jericho" missiles, the sources said the Soviet leadership fears an Israeli mood in which the political echelon will view the use of nuclear weapons against Soviet targets, such as Soviet Navy ships in the Mediterranean, as a possible scenario.

The Soviets are also concerned about the transfer of authority for using these weapons to the military echelon. They do not expect Israel to immediately give up its nuclear strength. However, they are interested in further clarification of Israel's policy, beyond the formula according to which Israel "will not be the first country to introduce nuclear weapons to the region." The sources said such clarification in secret talks and an emerging public debate on the issue of nuclear policy will aid the Soviets in curbing Arab nuclear trends.

The sources said that despite reservations about Shamir, Gromyko is likely to acquiesce to a request to meet him in New York this year as well. However, the results of the meeting depend on Shamir: "If he again comes with the intention of presenting a list of prisoners, such as Anatoliy Scharansky, it is likely that the talk will again get bogged down in the old positions of the sides."

Attitude of Egyptian Authorities in Tabah Changes

TA231057 Tel Aviv HA'ARETZ in Hebrew
23 May 85 p 6

[Report by Eytan Rabin]

[Text] A change in the attitude of the Egyptian authorities in Tabah toward Israelis has been noticed lately. Two days ago, the Egyptian authorities released the Israeli yacht *Fantasy*, which had been held for a week in Sharm al-Shaykh. The Egyptians have also released an Israeli boat which had been held for approximately 5 months. Military sources said the Egyptians promised that by the end of the week they would release three more boats which they have been holding for more than 5 months — a yacht named *'Eden*, and two boats belonging to Elat residents. Two days ago, the authorities completed the construction of an observation tower in the vicinity of Tabah. Each morning Egyptian soldiers climb the tower and, using binoculars, observe the Tabah beach, the Aviya Sonesta Hotel, and Rafi Nelson's resort village.

Security Forces Expose 'Terrorist Cell'

TA240449 Jerusalem Domestic Service in Hebrew
0400 GMT 24 May 85

[Text]Security forces have recently exposed a terrorist cell which was active mainly in the Ramallah District, and whose members are thought to have been responsible for the murder of a soldier, Aharon Avidar, in the center of Al-Birah approximately 3 months ago. The IDF spokesman has said that the cell members belong to the PFLP. So far 30 terrorists have been arrested. Serious attacks have been attributed to them, including — in addition to the murder of Avidar — the murder of an Arab resident who was suspected by the terrorists of having cooperated with Israel, and placing a hand grenade in a truck carrying gas cyliners in Rehovot.

The IDF spokesman has reported that last night the security forces demolished five houses belonging to the cell members and their colleagues in the villages of Saffa and (Bayt Ghawr al-Tahta). Our correspondent Arye Gus reports that during his interrogation, one of the detainees admitted to the murder of the soldier, Aharon Avidar. The murder weapon — a pistol — was found in the possession of the terrorist cell.

Our correspondent points out that a curfew was imposed on the two villages while the houses were being demolished. Security sources told our correspondent that they consider the latest organizing by terrorists in Judaea and Samaria very serious, and said that they would react severely and swiftly to every incident.

Nigeria Announces Postponement of ECOWAS Summit
AB231320 Paris AFP in English 1257 GMT 23 May 85

[Text] Lagos, May 23 (AFP) — The planned summit of the 16-member Economic Community of West African States (ECOWAS) has been postponed to July from the end of this month, Nigerian Presidential spokesman Wada Maida said here today.

Mr. Maida said the postponement was at the request of some Moslem heads of state because of the Islamic Ramadan fasting month which began three days ago.

They would not have been able to attend what would be the community's 10th anniversary meeting.

However, various African diplomatic sources here said that the summit was put off at Nigeria's request with no reason being given.

They speculated that the Lagos government was fighting shy of a possible confontation with ECOWAS partners over its expulsion of illegal immigrants.

The expulsion operation, which is still going on, has caused tension especially between Nigeria and two other ECOWAS members, Benin and Ghana.

Mr. Maida said that no new date had yet been fixed for the summit, but it would be in July, shortly before or shortly after a planned Organisation of African Unity summit.

ECOWAS Chief Sees Eyadema, Announces Summit Date
AB232209 Lome Domestic Service in French 1900 GMT 23 May 85

[Excerpt] President Eyadema today received Momodu Munu, ECOWAS executive secretary and the director of the ECOWAS Fund. Mr Munu delivered a message to President Eydema following a mission to Guinea-Conakry and Sierra Leone as part of the 10th anniversary of ECOWAS. The ECOWAS executive secretary told reporters that the next summit of the community will take place from 4 to 6 July 1985 in Lome. The executive secretary also took stock of the 10 years of the existence of the ECOWAS.

[Begin Munu recording in English fading into French translation] First of all, I paid a courtesy call and delivered a message following a message which the president here asked me to take to his brothers and colleagues — the president of the Republic of Guinea and the president of the Republic of Sierra Leone in connection with the 10th anniversary of ECOWAS. [Sentence as heard]

[Unidentified reporter] Mr Secretary, at the last ECOWAS summit, which was held here in Lome, it was decided that the next summit will take place at the end of May in Lome. Is this date still maintained?

[Munu] Following representations from Nigeria and other countries to postpone the initial date, which coincides with the Ramadan fasting period, it was decided that the next summit should be postponed. The new date for the next summit will be from 4 to 6 July. But before this summit, the Council of Ministers will meet from 1 to 2 July while the Board of Driectors of ECOWAS will hold its meeting from 28 tc 29 June. [End recording]

ALGERIA

FLN Sends Envoy to Lebanon To Mediate for Peace

LD232332 Algiers Domestic Service in Arabic 2300 GMT 23 May 85

[Text] The FLN party has this evening sent Brother Alsadek Zouaten, member of the permanent secretariat of the Central Committee for Foreign Relations, as a special envoy to Lebanon to contact all the parties and make efforts to stop the bloodshed and find solutions to the present problems by peaceful means.

Party Official Receives PFLP's Abu Sharif

LD222344 Algiers Domestic Service in French 2200 GMT 22 May 85

[Text] At the party headquarters, the official in charge of the Permanent Secretariat of the Central Committee received Bassam Abu Sharif, member of the Political Bureau of the Popular Front for the Liberation of Palestine. At the center of their talks were the latest developments in the situation on the Palestinian scene.

LIBYA

Al-Qadhdhafi To Visit Iraq; Seeks End to Gulf War

LD241013 Kuwait KUNA in English 0912 GMT 24 May 85

[Text] Kuwait, May 24 (KUNA) — Libyan leader Mu'ammar al-Qadhdhafi will visit Iraq "within the coming two weeks" to work out a new initiative to end the Iraq-Iran war, daily *AL-QABAS* reported Friday.

The daily said Al-Qadhdhafi will be accompanied by a high ranking Saudi Arabian official.

Al-Qadhdhafi earlier this week made a surprise visit to Saudi Arabia and had talks with the King Fahd. *AL-QABAS* said in his talks with Saudi officials, the Libyan leader suggested [word indistinct] on a fresh move to end the Gulf war.

Al-Qadhdhafi has been on unfriendly terms with Iraqi President Saddam Husayn since Iraq and Iran went into war five years ago. However, Al-Qadhdhafi has recent been diplomatically engaged in attempts to (?mend) fences with some of his Arab adversaries.

Jallud, Syria's Khaddam Discuss Palestinian Camps

LD241012 Tripoli JANA in English 0901 GMT 24 May 85

[Text] Tripoli, Ramadan 5, May 24, JAMAHIRIYAH NEWS AGENCY — Contacts continued all day yesterday between Staff Major 'Abd al-Salam Ahmad Jallud and 'Abd al-Halim Khaddam, the Syrian vice president related to what facing the Palestinian camps of barbaric shelling carried out by Amal movement and the need to put an end to the vicious acts facing the inhabitants of the Palestinian camps.

Palestinian Front Appeals for Aid in Beirut 'Massacre'

LD240632 Tripoli Voice of Greater Arab Homeland in Arabic 2315 GMT 23 May 85

[Text] This evening the brother leader of the revolution received an urgent cable from the Palestinian National Alliance Front explaining to the brother leader that all the attempts made [words indistinct] the frightful massacre by the militias of Amal movement against the Palestinian people at the camps have failed. It explained that Amal movement has prevented the Red Cross from removing the wounded and the martyrs inside the camps. The cable added that for the past 2 days the camps of Sabra, Shatila, and Burj al-Barajinah have been experiencing acute shortage of water and supplies as a result of the Amal movement's persistent siege of the camps. The Palestinian National Alliance Front told the brother leader of the revolution that the militias of Amal movement are physically liquidating every Palestinian merely for being a Palestinian. The front has asserted that the Palestinians will defend their camps until death; in your capacity as commander of the Pan-Arab Command for leading the Arab revolutionary forces, we urge you to rescue our revolution and our people from the frightful massacre which the Zionists are executing at the hands of Amal movement, the message says.

Commentaries Condemn Amal's Actions in Lebanon

Seen as Zionist 'Fifth Column'

LD232329 Tripoli Voice of Greater Arab Homeland in Arabic 2015 GMT 23 May 85

[Unattributed commentary]

[Text] The editorial in today's special edition of *AL-ZAHF AL-AKHBAR* says that in seeking out a fifth column we find a treacherous aggressor who succeeds in achieving the objectives of his aggression. The most dangerous enemy column is the fifth; to be precise it is the column of spies and traitors which [words indistinct] and works for the enemy [words indistinct]. The Zionist enemy used to state that its withdrawal from southern Lebanon will be followed by a state of chaos and bloody sectarian strife. The enemy was not prophesizing; it forecast this because it relied on a plan, the implementation of which was entrusted to the coward agents who constitute the fifth column [words indistinct] and receive instructions from the Zionist invaders. This enemy, which was left no choice but to withdraw from southern Lebanon, wants its withdrawal to have a price so that it does not leave Lebanon 3 years after the invasion without reaping something. The price that the enemy wants is, first, the Palestinian-Lebanese border to be secure for the Jewish settlements; second, to destroy the Palestinian camps in Lebanon in implementation of the enemy's declared plan; and to annihilate the base of the Palestinian resistance. It seems that a deal was struck between the enemy and the traitors in the fifth column, since the enemy promised to withdraw from southern Lebanon, and the fifth column promised in return to attack the Palestinian camps in Lebanon in order to [word indistinct] to destroy the base of the Palestinian resistance, and to protect the border between Lebanon and occupied Palestine, leaving no scope for a single bullet to cross this border toward the enemy in occupied Palestine.

The enemy now stands [words indistinct] watching its fifth column agents while they are implementing the articles of the dirty deal to the letter.

What is really (?regrettable) is the Shi'ite Amal movement being the tool of the Zionist enemy in implementing its plan to kindle a sectarian war in Lebanon in order to achieve the division, [word indistinc], cantons, and slaughtering of the Palestinian people, to give the Zionists the pretext to justify their presence in the region, and to support them in imposing their control over the region. This road to control deals a blow to pan-Arabism and detonates what the former U.S. secretary of state, the Zionist, Kissinger, termed the mosaic in the Middle East.

The Zionists at this stage accept being described by the Shi'ite Amal movement as strangers, while the Amal describes the Palestinians as foreigners. They are about to give this adjective to the Syrians also, from the premise of the narrow sectarian understanding of the conflict, and because Amal, as it has been confirmed, does not fight a sacred jihad against the pan-Arab enemy. Rather it is waging a dirty sectarian war; for the Shi'ites in southern Lebanon, the best results of this will be to turn them into agents and a fifth column for the Jews inside Lebanon.

The Jamahiriyah stood by all the Lebanese who refused to submit to the so-called Israel, and was determined to fight America and Zionism. When Amal presented itself as a side hostile to imperialism and Zionism, it received arms and other forms of support from the Libyan Arab people. Perhaps it is clear that this Libyan Arab attitude was aimed at the development of the pan-Arab armed struggle against the enemy, and not at the development of sectarian inclinations so that Amal or others become stronger and reach the level of bargaining, blackmail, and the kindling of the dirty sectarian war in order to achieve lowly and trivial sectarian aims at the expense of the future of Lebanon, the Palestine problem, and pan-Arabism.

The Zionist invaders are a historic enemy of the Arab nation and not mere strangers or foreigners. As for the Palestinians, they are the ally of the Lebanese Arab people and they are not an enemy of Lebanon for Amal to slaughter their heroes. They also are not strangers or foreigners in Lebanon.

The blood of the Palestinians has watered the Lebanese soil in defense of its Arabism in confrontation against the Zionist invaders, who harbor the ambition of expanding at the expense of Lebanon, whether there is Palestinian resistance in Lebanon or not.

No one should keep quiet or stand idle over what is happening in Lebanon within the framework of the dirty struggle being waged in the service of America and the so-called Israel. As to the one who believes that he can tune the conflict so finely that it cannot go beyond certain limits, he is like a person who sets fire to a dry tree in a dry forest, the branches of which are intermingled, and deludes himself that he can control the fire and prevent it from spreading.

It is impossible to reconcile Amal's statement that it is hostile to Zionism while it shells the Palestinian camps in Lebanon and slaughters the Palestinian heroes, women, and old people. The correct and precise evaluation of the Shi'ite Amal movement, while it is killing the Palestinians and turning its back on the Zionists in order to kindle the fire of a sectarian war, is that it is in collusion with the Zionist Jews, and is allied to them in order to serve dirty sectarian objectives. This massacre, being committed by the henchmen of Birri — whom we supported when he presented himself and Amal as a side hostile to Zionism and imperialism — must be stopped, and revenge should be taken against any criminal and wanton hand that took part in it, and against every wicked soul that planned it.

The Zionist enemy, relying on the fifth column, is capable of kindling such a dirty sectarian war. Arab states with a presence in Lebanon can immediately halt the massacre and also abort the conspiratorial plan, which will move on to Syria and other Arab countries if it succeeds in Lebanon, thus balkanizing and splitting the whole Arab homeland in the interest of Zionism and imperialism.

'Treacherous' Attack on Camps

LD231734 Tripoli JANA in English 1630 GMT 23 May 85

["Amal of Israel: Timing of Act" — JANA headline]

[Text] Tripoli, 4 Ramadan, 23 May, JAMAHIRIYAH NEWS AGENCY — This is a title of an article by JANA political editor in response to the horrific massacres committed in Sabra and Shatila. It reads as follows:

A number of questions need to be answered urgently. Those are questions relating to the developments taking place in Lebanon with specific reference to the Palestinians, their presence and their real (not imaginative) participation in the march to the south.

The most important question of all is the one relating to the nature and implications of the treacherous attack and its suspicious timing by Amal movement militias against the symbol of the Palestinian presence and against the Palestinians who remained when the P.L.O. 'Arafatists failed to distribute them in Tunisia, Yemen, Sudan and Algeria. These Palestinians remained there as a symbol of the Palestinian national salvation gun despite the Zionist-isolationist hammer and despite the nightmare of Sabra and Shatila massacres.

This new massacre in the camps where Zionist forces already committed notorious slaughter against the Palestinians does coincide with a number of incidents. It came at the end of the Zionist forces' escape from south Lebanon and the coming to light of the outlines of the American settlement plot for the region.

In fact, during the battle of the south's liberation the Palestinian forces of the Palestinian National Salvation Front have courageously participated in the fight and gave groups of martyrs for the sake of the Lebanese Arab soil. Following the Zionist invasion to the Lebanon these forces have strongly resisted the isolationist forces and protected the camps' elderly, children and women. In fact, they foiled 'Arafat's plan of surrender and his participation in the American settlement design for the region.

On the same day that a faction of the National Salvation Front achieved a new victory over the Zionist gangs, the release of hundreds of Palestinians, Arabs and foreign fighters the Amal militias attacked the Palestinians from behind and this prevented them from celebrating such victory.

What Amal forces are carrying out is an act of treason against the legitimate struggle alliance in Lebanon. It is a green light for those capitalizing on the American settlement to accept the American-made conditions. In other words the idea is to control the Palestinian fighters, the real threat that foiled surrender plots.

In other words, Amal's militias are Israel's hope in carrying out what she has so far failed to achieve through killing and destruction which is to drag other parties into the American settlement.

It is also Israel's hope in hitting the struggle alliance between the Palestinian National Salvation Front and the Lebanese National Front, the alliance that has already proved itself in liberating all the soil of the Lebanese south.

The objective behind Amal's suspicious timing for this attack is to explode the security situation in Lebanon, to attack the Lebanese-Palestinian alliance, to pass the reactionary American plot and to prepare the Lebanese arena to be the last stop of this plot.

In fact, the real goals of the attack against the Palestinians as outlined by Amal symbols is clearly expressed in Amal militias' fierce operations and fires and its symbols' statements and behaviour which is typical to that of the Zionists.

What is being said in Arab capitals about "solving the problem", "studying the situation" and "mediation" are all nothing but imaginary false solutions and tranquilizers well known to the Arab masses. The Arab masses have had enough of analysis and explanations for this or that act. What is needed now is a real and not a verbal stand alongside the inhabitants of the Palestinian camps, the honest Palestinian fighters and the Lebanese nationalists, those who unlike Amal and 'Arafat did not feel weak before the mirage of the American capitulation settlement, those who chose to remain the eternal symbol for liberation from the south to the south. [Sentence as received]

SUDAN

Siwar al-Dhahab Meets With Regional Delegations

JN231200 Khartoum SUNA in English 1032 GMT 23 May 85

[Text] Khartoum, Ramadan 4 / May 23 (SUNA) — Chairman of the Transitional Military Council (TMC) General Siwar al-Dhahab met yesterday (Wednesday) with a delegation from Himishkorib, Eastern Region, who presented an explanation of the situation in the region. Siwar al-Dhahab promised to offer food supplies aids to the (?Koran) schools and citizens affected by starvation.

On the other hand Siwar al-Dhahab met with a delegation from Shaykh al-Kabashi village who conveyed to him the citizens congratulations for the popular uprising.

He also met with a delegation of the trade unions from the Equatorial Region who transfered the unions viewpoint about the southern regions administration during the interim period and their proposals to solve the southern problem.

Siwar al-Dhahab Confers With Moroccan Businessman

JN231055 Khartoum SUNA in English 1019 GMT 23 May 85

[Text] Khartoum, Ramadan 4/ May 23 (SUNA) — TMC Chairman General Siwar al-Dhahab yesterday conferred with the director of Moroccan commercial center here Isa Hawila, in the presence of the Moroccan ambassador to Khartoum.

Hawila, who congratulated Siwar al-Dhahab on the popular uprising and Ramadan [words indistinct] offered the development in the various field and leather industry in particular.

TMC Discusses Security, Constitutional Committee

JN231806 Khartoum SUNA in English 1735 GMT 23 May 85

[Text] Khartoum, May 23 (SUNA) — The Transitional Military Council TMC held its fourth regular meeting here today under the chairmanship of Gen 'Abd al-Rahman Siwar al-Dhahab.

At the outset of the meeting the 15-member council heard a detailed report about the security situation in the country. Two reports about the TMC delegations' visits to the north African Arab countries and the Sudan's southern neighbours. [Sentence as received]

The meeting as well touched on the work of the constitutional committee which includes members of the National Alliance of Trade Unions. The committee was set up to revise the 1956 constitution amendment 1964 to make it cope with the objectives of the transitional stage. [Sentence as received]

Transitional Military Council Issues Bill, Decrees

1973 Press Act Abolished

JN231803 Khartoum SUNA in English 1730 GMT 23 May 85

[Text] Khartoum, May 23 (SUNA) — The Transitional Military Council today issued a bill of the Publication and Press Act for the year 1985 abolishing 1973 Publication and Press Act but all licences of papers and publications issued in virture of 1973 act will be valid.

The decision authorized the information and culture minister to issue decisions organizing the issuance of press and publications until the new act is issued.

Agreement With Segma Canceled

JN231824 Khartoum SUNA in English 1745 GMT 23 May 85

[Text] Khartoum, May 23 (SUNA) — Chairman of the Transitional Military Council TMC Gen 'Abd al-Rahman Siwar al-Dhahab today issued a Decree No. 89 for the year 1405 [1985] cancelling the agreement signed between the Government of Sudan and Segma Company.

The agreement was signed between the defunct regime and Segma International Company to establish what so called the Petroleum National Company which according to the agreement had concessions to work in field of oil prospection, investment selling, exportation and importation besides monopolizing what related to these works. The company had actually registered according to the companies laws but it does not start work yet. The agreement comes as a visible personification and a concrete presentation of political and administrative corruption, Siwar al-Dhahab said in his statement.

Due to this agreement huge amount of money would have gone to some corrupt international [word indistinct], the statement said. The agreement has exempted company from taxes, taxation, zakat. It also excluded the company from hard currency control without specification of why this should be so, the statement reads.

One article in the agreement indicates that the period during which the agreement is effective is unspecified. The agreement is not to be cancelled till the two sides agree on nullifying it, the agreement said. This means Sudan is, under this unjust agreement, deprived from any move to cancel it, even if it is against the will and the interest of the people, the communique explained.

The agreement stipulated the government has to concede its right to the company and accordingly the government will lose a lot of its right. The agreement reveal that the people who signed it in the name of Sudan Government aims to exploit the resources of the people. They think that people do not know their deeds.

Concerning the agreement which the defunct regime signed with Segma Company Siwar al-Dhahab said that the tools of the defunct regime founded the company with only 1,000 pounds capital as a limited liability company. Siwar al-Dhahab said that the company did not work and the Transitional Military Council issued the Resolution No. 89 for the year 1985 which cancelled the agreement between the Democratic Republic of the Sudan and Segma International Company to establish Sudanese Oil Limited Company.

The decision stipulated that the attorney general shall take all mean sures to implement the decision of cancellation.

Peace Council Linked to Cabinet

JN231801 Khartoum SUNA in English 1732 GMT 23 May 85

[Text] Khartoum, May 23 (SUNA) — Chairman of the Transitional Military Council 'Abd al-Rahman Siwar al-Dhahab issued today the Decision Number 90 affiliating the National Council for Consolidation Peace and Friendship to the Cabinet. The Council was previously affiliated to the deposed Sudanese Socialist Union (SSU).

TMC, National Alliance To Discuss Constitution

EA231629 Omdurman Domestic Service in Arabic 0430 GMT 23 May 85

[Text] The Transitional Military Council and the Alliance of National Forces for the Salvation of the Homeland will hold a [word indistinct] meeting in the next few days to discuss the constitution of the transitional period, [word indistinct] of the May regime, the issue of the southern part of the homeland, and the question of the presence of military governors in the regions. This was declared by Mr 'Awad al-Karim Muhammad Ahmad, secretary general of the [word indistinct] (?council). He added that the (?council) has formed a committee [words indistinct] comprising 50 members. The committee held its first meeting at which it agreed on two basic issues the first of which is urgent, namely opening of channels for contact with the SPLM [Sudanese People's Liberation Movement] leadership, and the second one is formation of committees for presenting studies about various aspects of the southern problem.

'Source' Reveals Funds Available to Envoy in U.S.

JN231104 Khartoum SUNA in English 1023 GMT 23 May 85

[Text] Khartoum, Ramadan, 4/ May 23 (SUNA) — An amount of 105,000 in the accounts of Sudan's Embassy in Washington had been at the disposal of former ambassador 'Umar Salih 'Issa, said an official source at the Attorney General's Office. Investigations have revealed that sum had been deposited at the order of former finance minister.

Al-'Ati Orders Intensification of Investigations

JN231133 Khartoum SUNA in English 1026 GMT 23 May 85

[Text] Khartoum, Ramadan 4/ May 23, (SUNA) — Attorney General 'Umar 'Abd al-'Ati declared general mobilization in the Attorney General Chamber and said that all the advisers in the chamber will work daily till 4 p.m. (local time). He added that he ordered to withdraw all judicial advisers from all the ministries and institutions to participate in this investigation and to perform their duties in the coming stage.

Ministry Prepares Program To Combat Drought

JN231056 Khartoum SUNA in English 1021 GMT 23 May 85

[Text] Khartoum, Ramadan 4/ May 23 (SUNA) — Ministry of Agriculture and Natural Resources has prepared an urgent programme to combat drought and desertification problem in the country. Minister of Agriculture Siddiq 'Abidin announced that the programme has divided Sudan into five regions. The programme is to be executed in five years, he said.

ETHIOPIA

PALE Units Reportedly Seize 2 Military Camps

GF231550 Doha QNA in Arabic 1230 GMT 23 May 85

[Text] Abu Dhabi, 23 May (QNA) — Units of the Popular Army for the Liberation of Eritrea [PALE], operating behind the Ethiopian forces' lines, seized two military camps belonging to the Ethiopian Army in southern Eritrea. The military camps, which were located on the Asmera-Mandafara road, were seized last Monday following a fierce battle. This statement was made by Osman Mohamed Omar, representative of the Eritrean Popular Liberation Front, who is based in Abu Dhabi.

In his statement to the QNA correspondent in Abu Dhabi, he said: In this battle, the Ethiopians lost 89 dead and 23 wounded. Forty-six Ethiopians were taken prisoner and a large numbers of medium-caliber light arms were seized. The Ethiopian rgime tried to save its forces by sending a force from a nearby military camp and a number of MIG-23 fighter planes. However, PALE units managed to ward off Ethiopian forces, inflicting heavy losses on them.

KENYA

Mwangale Hosts Luncheon for Belgian Minister

EA232038 Nairobi KNA in English 1640 GMT 23 May 85

["Speech by Hon E.W. Mwangale, minister for foreign affairs, on 23rd May 1985 at a luncheon in honour of the Belgian minister of external relations, Hon Leo Tindemans" — KNA headline]

[Excerpt] Nairobi 23rd May — A few days ago, the racist South African regime announced that it would set up a puppet regime in Namibia in contravention to the Security Council Resolution 435. Kenya condemns, unreservedly, this latest manoeuvre and I can assure you, Mr Minister, that this move will fail, like all other previous ones. The struggle will continue and Kenya renews its commitment to the patriotic people of Namibia in their just struggle for genuine freedom and independence.

The brutal enforcement of the apartheid system in South Africa has shocked the entire world. We firmly believe that there can never be peace in that country so long as the apartheid system continues to be endorsed by the Pretoria regime. We call on the Pretoria regime to abolish the apartheid system and start discussions with African leaders in that country to work out a just constitution capable of re-introduction of democracy, justice and rule of law in that country. Further delay towards this end spells catastrophe for the region far beyond.

Economic Cooperation Agreement Signed

EA232018 Nairobi KNA in English 1555 GMT 23 May 85

[Text] Nairobi May 23 — Kenya and Belgium today signed a five-year agreement for technical and economic cooperation between the two countries. The agreement was signed by the minister for foreign affairs, Mr Elijah Mwangale on behalf of the Kenya Government while the Belgian minister for external affairs, Mr Leo Tindemans signed on behalf of his country.

Under the agreement the two governments will undertake to promote, facilitate and encourage cooperation in the economic and technical fields. The areas to be covered include those in agriculture, industry, mining, energy, transport and communications.

The two governments will also promote the study and execution of development projects, including provision of technical staff, exchange of experts and information for and in the fields agreed upon. A joint meeting of the officials of the two countries will meet once every two years, alternately in Nairobi and Brussels, to determine the guidelines for the cooperation and evaluate results obtained in the fields of agreement.

SOMALIA

Mogadishu Comments on TPLF Actions in Ethiopia

EA232337 Mogadishu Domestic Service in Somali 1700 GMT 23 May 85

[Excerpts] The Tigre People's Liberation Front, TPLF, has intensified the war in which it is engaged with the Abyssinian forces. That is the topic of our commentary written by Abdi Muhammad Abdullahi and read by Mustafa Abdi Husayn.

The vigorous war being waged by the forces of the TPLF is similar to the wars being waged by the the Eritrean people and the WSLF and Abo liberation forces. There is no doubt that over the past few days the struggle by the TPLF against black colonialist Abyssinia has greatly intensified.

A report released by AFP said that the TPLF repulsed an attack by the Abyssinian forces and left 2,200 Abyssinian soldiers dead. The TPLF statement, released in London, said that a major offensive had been launched by the Abyssinian forces against the TPLF, but this had proved a great setback for the Abyssinians and a great blow was inflicted against the Abyssinian forces that launched the attack. The statement released by the front said that 1,645 enemy Abyssinian soldiers were wounded in the battle and 896 soldiers were taken prisoner.

The TPLF also said that they had shot down one MIG-23 fighter plane belonging to Abyssinia and destroyed 15 tanks as well as capturing light weapons and several serviceable tanks left behind by the fleeing Abyssinian soldiers who had been brought to the battlefield in the campaign to exterminate the Tigre people.

The official statement by the TPLF adds that the fighting took place west of (Adiyaba) city in Tigray territory. The front said that the objective of the Abyssinian offensive was to destroy the remnants of the Tigre people since the Abyssinians thought that the fighting forces of Tigray had been wiped out by the prolonged drought and famine. But poor Abyssinian intelligence reports on the fighting strength of the TPLF led them into a crushing and humiliating defeat at their hands.

Although there is starvation and famine throughout Tigray territory the TPLF has taught the Abyssinians a lesson. The ability and unity of the front has never been better than today.

The Abyssinian regime cannot subdue the armed struggle of the Tigre people, said the TPLF statement. The just struggle of the Tigre people will continue. Victory is for the TPLF and humiliating defeat is for black colonialist Abyssinia.

UGANDA

National Assembly Passes Election Amendment Bill

EA232052 Kampala Domestic Service in English 1700 GMT 23 May 85

[Text] Parliament has passed the National Assembly elections amendment bill which among other things requires parties participating in elections to demonstrate their national support to the electoral commission.

The bill also gives powers to government to increase various fines and charges in the electoral process. The bill was passed with minor amendments.

Winding up the debate on the bill the minister of public service and cabinet affairs, Mr Wilson Okwenje, emphasized that the issue of elections is very crucial to the stability of the nation. He called on members, especially those of the opposition, to let the commission do its work without hinderances or interference. The minister assured members that the government would do its best to provide all the necessary materials to ensure that the elections are successful.

Rebel Leader Reportedly Seeks U.S. Asylum

AB231305 Paris AFP in English 1246 GMT 23 May 85

[Text] Kampala, May 23 (AFP) — Authorities here today denied any knowledge of reports from Kampala that Ugandan guerrilla leader Yoweri Museveni had fled to Sweden and asked the United States for political asylum.

The reports in the Ugandan press that Mr. Museveni, a former defence minister and now head of the rebel National Resistance Army, had gone to Sweden puzzled both the Swedish Government immigration office and the U.S. Embassy here. The Kampala *STAR* newspaper said the rebel leader had asked Washington for asylum through a U.S. consulate in Sweden, but an embassy spokesman said the report had no substance. The immigration office said it had not received any application in Mr. Museveni's name for a visa or entry permit, while the Foreign Ministry said it had received no report from Sweden's embassy in Nairobi, Kenya, which also covers Uganda.

Sources close to the immigration office, however, said that Mr. Museveni could have been travelling under a false name and with a non-Ugandan passport.

CAMEROON

Biya Receives Message From Ivorian President

AB231731 Yaounde Domestic Service in French 1200 GMT 23 May 85

[Text] Ivorian Minister of Mines Paul Gui Dibo this morning delivered a message from President Felix Houphouet-Boigny to his colleague and brother, President Apul Biya. After the audience, the Ivorian minister, President Houphouet-Boigny's special envoy, disclosed that his presence here falls within the framework of a friendly visit and the permanent cooperation between our two countries. Paul Gui Dibo spoke to Theodore M'bo Etoundou:

[Begin recording] [Dibo] I just brought a message from President Felix Houphouet-Boigny to his brother and colleague, his excellency President Paul Biya. It is especially the very good relations between Ivory Coast and Cameroon that the president asked me to stress, particularly the very high esteem he has for President Paul Biya and the brotherly greetings from the people of the Ivory Coast to the people of Cameroon. We also had some opportunity to discuss other general issues. As for the message, I cannot say what the contents are. However, we touched on some other issues as well.

[Etoundou] Excellency, is there any bilateral cooperation project between the two countries in the field of mining?

[Dibo] As you know, it is a very promising but difficult field; and there must surely be cooperation between all the countries that understand each other in this field — countries that have very good relations, at least all the African countries. This is a very new area in which there is the need to train cadres. It is necessary to train sufficient cadres who will be able to take up all the technical problems that exist. There is therefore a real need for cooperation in this field.

[Etoundou] Your country is preparing for a very important event — presidential elections. President Houphouet-Boigny announced in February 1985 that he would hold a press conference in which he will make some disclosures. How are you preparing for this event?

[Dibo] As you know, what must preoccupy President Houphouet-Boigny is the economic development of the Ivory Coast whereas the expiration of electoral deadlines are quite normal occurrences which Ivorians are not presently concerned with, because President Houphouet is preoccupied with other matters. The elections will take place under normal conditions and Ivorians will say what is on their minds. But what he is more concerned about is the economic future of the Ivory Coast and of all African countries in the face of the difficulties into which the whole world has been plunged.

[Etoundou] In conclusion, excellency, experience has shown that international institutions are not always adapted to our objectives and programs. Taking the bull by the horns, some African heads of state have been consulting each other on the possibility of creating organizations among them which are likely to participate directly in the financing of some programs. President Houphouet-Boigny is said to have mooted this idea. What is the real situation?

[Dibo] President Houphouet-Boigny is probably cherishing this idea and we must wait until it takes shape. In fact, we who are his immediate collaborators do not know about it yet. But what is sure and certain is that it will be a very good thing in this part of Africa which needs to depend on its own efforts because, as the saying goes: God helps those who help themselves. If we have at least a little to start with, it is certain that we will be respected. At least we will be saved from the pressure of some foreign financial institutions. This is all I have to say. [End recording]

Delegation To Leave for North Korea 24 May

AB231604 Yaounde Domestic Service in English 1400 GMT 23 May 85

[Text] A Cameroonian delegation led by the minister delegate at the Ministry of Foreign Affairs, Mahamat Baba Sale leaves the country tomorrow for Pyongyang, North Korea, to take part in the first Cameroon-North Korea joint commission meeting. The delegation will seek ways of reactivating bilateral cooperation between Cameroon and North Korea in the areas of agriculture, commerce, health and culture. An accord on cultural, scientific and technical cooperation is expected to be signed at the end of the joint commission meeting.

NIGERIA

Envoy Denies Western Stories on Expellees

AB231627 Kinshasa AZAP in French 1310 GMT 23 May 85

[Text] Kinshasa, 22 May (AZAP) — The Nigerian ambassador to Zaire, Major General Abdullahi Shelleng, at a conference with members of the Zairian Press on Wednesday, refuted some assertions made by the Western press on measures being taken by his government with regard to illegal immigrants. In particular, he vehemently denied that the pictures recently shown by one of the French television channels were taken in his country or on the Nigeria-Zaire border. The soldiers' uniforms and the area in which they were operating clearly showed that the reports came from another black African country, the ambassador said. There was no loss of human life, he stressed.

Retracing the events, Mr Abdullahi Shelleng said that the measures taken by Lagos resulted from the clashes between religious fanatics in Gombe in the north of the country. The government was convinced that illegal aliens were the root cause of the disturbances. Following these unfortunate events, the speaker explained, the Ministry of the Interior regularly issued announcements calling on illegal aliens to get their papers in order in accordance with the ECOWAS protocol on the free movement of people. According to this protocol, foreigners who enter Nigeria have up to 90 days to get their papers in order.

On 15 April a final reminder was issued and an ultimatum given for 10 May 1985, the deadline for the voluntary repatriation of illegal aliens. The ambassador said that these aliens did not take

the measure seriously, ignoring that President Buhari is a hospitable but firm and lucid man. What the Nigerian people deplored about the illegal aliens was their antisocial behavior. The unemployed ones — and there were many of them — engaged in stealing, banditry and other unlawful activities, the ambassador stressed.

The Nigerian borders have been officially closed since April 1984, following the changing of the naira, the national currency. they were reopened exceptionally from 3 to 10 May 1985 to enable the illegal immigrants to leave. At present the government is envisaging a possible reopening of the borders following messages received in Lagos from certain statesmen.

EEC Using Nigerian Ports To Deliver Aid to Chad

AB232132 Paris AFP in French 1732 GMT 23 May 85

[Text] Lagos, 23 May (AFP) — The European Economic Community [EEC] has been authorized to use Nigerian ports to disembark aid destined to Chad, a land-locked country with no access to the sea, it was learned today in Lagos from the EEC representative and from the Nigerian Ministry of Foreign Affairs.

According to the EEC representative, however, this permission was only given "verbally" by Nigeria, and the EEC is still waiting for a written confirmation. In May, the EEC had to convey aid to Chad via the Cameroonian port of Douala instead of using the Port Harcourt Harbor in the southeast region of Nigeria.

A ship — M.V. Atlanta — which was carrying 9,000 tons of corn for Chad, had to wait for 6 weeks at the port before leaving for the Cameroonian port of Douala. The delay cost the EEC an additional $132,000.

Aid donors are also confronted with the problem of transportation across Nigeria but, all things considered, it is generally quicker to pass through Nigerian ports, the same source at the EEC in Lagos, who does not want to be identified, said.

The EEC will, therefore, continue to transport its aid to Chad and continue to use Nigerian port facilities as much as possible, according to the same source.

The source points out, however, that the verbal permission given on this matter is "insufficient" and would prefer to have a written document.

On its part, the United Nations has permission from the Lagos authorities to use the country's ports for their aid operations to drought-stricken countries like Chad and Niger.

ZAIRE

First State Commissioner Postpones Visit to PRC

AB231040 Kinshasa Domestic Service in French 1130 GMT 22 May 85

[Text] The first state commissioner, Citizen Kengo wa Dondo, received this morning at the Executive Council Hall Mr An Guozheng, the new PRC ambassador to Zaire. The first talks of the two personalities focused mainly on future bilateral cooperation between our two countries. The Chinese diplomat made his first official statement at the Executive Council Hall to Bikini Ndae Kinsagor:

[Begin recording in Mandarin with sentence-by-sentence translation into French] [An Guozheng] This is my first courtesy call on Citizen Kengo was Dondo, the first state commissioner. Our talks were held in a very friendly atmosphere, which is very significant. Our talks left me with a very good impression. We discussed problems relating to the steady development of friendly relations of cooperation between our two countries. Concerning the first state commissioner's official visit, it has been postponed to a later date to be fixed by the two sides. Thank you.

[Reporter] What about the other aspects of cooperation between our two countries?

[An Guozheng] As you are aware, our two countries have not only political and economic relations but also cultural relations and this cooperation has always been fruitful. This cooperation will continue to be strengthened. I am strongly convinced that with the passage of time this cooperation will increasingly strengthen. [End recording]

Ambassador to Angola Resumes Duty 23 May

AB231940 Kinshasa AZAP in French 1848 GMT 23 May 85

[Text] Kinshasa, 23 May (AZAP) — Citizen Ilangwa, Zaire's ambassador to Angola, returned to his post on Thursday by a regular Air Zaire flight after a week's stay in Kinshasa.

Ambassador Ilangwa, who came from Europe where he had gone for health reasons, took advantage of his stay in Kinshasa to receive necessary directives for a harmonious accomplishment of his duties in this sister country. The Zairian diplomat expressed satisfaction about the climate of understanding, frank collaboration and brotherhood that currently mark relations between Angola and Zaire.

GHANA

Nationals Return From Nigeria; No Food Problems Seen

AB240830 Accra Domestic Service in English
0600 GMT 24 May 85

[Text] The secretary for agriculture, Dr Adjei-Maafo, has given the assurance that the return home of 300,000 Ghanaians from Nigeria will not cause any serious food problems. Speaking to the Ghana Broadcasting Corporation, GBC, in Accra yesterday, he said his visit to the Brong Ahafo, central, and northern regions showed that much has been cultivated, adding input like cutlasses, tractors, fertilizers, and seedlings have already reached the farming areas. The Ministry of Fuel and Power has also made fuel allocation to the districts for distribution to the farmers. According to Dr Adjei-Maafo, the target of maize production for this year is 660,000 tons, but this figure may not be attained due to the initial low prices paid to farmers last year. He said adequate storage arrangements have been made for maize this year.

The secretary hinted that a British technical team is expected in the country this month to start work on the construction of silos in selected farming areas. He said up country, most of the farmers have shifted emphasis from maize production to yam and cassava. Others have gone into the cultivation of cash crops like tobacco and cotton. He visited several tons of food locked up in the rural areas due to lack of transport and he has directed the food distribution corporation to shift emphasis from imported food distribution to the evacuation and sale of local food.

Dr Adjei-Maafo announced that very soon the government will stop importing maize. He called on financial institutions to support the farmers in their effort to make food abundant in the country.

GUINEA

Cooperation Protocol Signed With Soviet Union

AB231045 Conakry Domestic Service in French
1945 GMT 22 May 85

[Text] The Soviet delegation led by Eduard Sarkisov, deputy chairman of the Union of Soviet Societies for Friendship and Cultural Relations With Foreign Countries, left Conakry this morning for Freetown after a long visit to our country. Before its departure, the delegation this morning signed an agreement with the minister of state for foreign affairs and international cooperation. Under this agreement, the Union of Soviet Societies for Friendhsip and Cultural Relations With Foreign Countries and the Guinean side expressed their view that their role is to contribute largely to the strengthening of friendship, mutual cooperation and confidence between them. Their role is also to develop the relations of cooperation existing between the Soviet and the Guinean peoples. The two sides will do everything to ensure that the Soviet and the Guinean peoples are informed on the life, history, economy, foreign policy, and cultures of the two countries, as well as their successes in all fields. To that effect, they will sponsor friendship days, exhibits, shows, lectures, rallies, and official meetings devoted to the major developments in the life of the two peoples reflecting the activities and objectives of the two sides.

Under the agreement, the two sides will regularly exchange information, books, films, and picture exhibits, and promote the establishment of ties between the organizations and institutions in the two countries. They will also exchange cultural, scientific,and artistic delegations and will assist such delegations in their mission. Details on the implementation of this agreement will be spelled out in yearly cooperation agreements.

The Union of Soviet Societies for Friendship and Cultural Relations With Foreign Countries and the Guinean side believe that the development of cooperation between our two peoples will contribute to the strengthening of friendship and understanding between the USSR and the Republic of Guinea.

At the end of the deliberations which resulted in the signing of this document, Captain Facine Toure, minister of state in charge of foreign affairs and international cooperation, stressed the importance of the Guinea-USSR agreements and stated that the two countries, which share historic bonds, must continue to strengthen the bases of their cooperation.

For his part, Eduard Sarkisov, deputy chairman of the Union of Soviet Societies for Friendship and Cultural Relations with foreign countries, expressed his satisfaction with the various discussions he held with the heads of the administrative divisions which he visited. Pointing out the great sympathy of the Soviet people for the Guinean people, Mr Sarkisov expressed the willingness of the Soviet Government to help Guinea achieve its economic, social, and cultural development. In conclusion, he suggested the (?promotion) of nongovernment organizations through the exchange of information.

NIGERIA

Local Administrator Blamed for Gombe Riots

AB232114 Lagos Domestic Service in English
1500 GMT 23 May 85

[Text] The commissioner of police in Bauchi State, Alhaji Abdulahi Shettima, blamed the recent Maitatsine disturbances in Gombe partly on the local government administrator in the area, Alhaji Ahmed Maikudi. Testifying before the judical commission following disturbances, the commissioner said that the administrative administrator issued a premature order to the local leader of the Maitatsine group to quit the area within 3 days.

[Passage indistinct] Alhaji Abdulahi Shettima was of the opinion that the sole administrator ought to have reported the presence of the fanatics to law enforcement agents who could have planned a strategy of arrest instead of inviting their leader in his office and issuing a threat he could not execute.

The police commissioner said that the police had no other alternatives than to use force in a bid to arrest the leader of the sect and as fighting broke out in the (?territory). Alhaji Abdulahi

claimed that the disturbances escalated because the two mobile police units deployed to the Pantami enclave of the territory on the first day of the disturbances were disorganized as a result of bad leadership on the part of the units' commander.

Under cross-examination by the commission's chairman, Justice Alex Okoye, the police commissioner said that the security agencies underrated the strength and the intelligence of the fanatics, including their leader Yusuf Adamu, during the planning of their operation. He disclosed that the reports made available to the police by the Criminal Investigation Bureau and the surveillance posts indicated that the fanatics numbered not more than 300 whereas [words indistinct] of the number could not be possibily assessed.

Alhaji Abdulahi also blamed the riots on the members of the public who, according to him, failed to give adequate information to the police about the presence of the fanatics. He said that the death toll at the end of the operation was (?101).

Commentary on OPEC's Stabilization Principles

AB231210 Lagos International Service in English 0830 GMT 23 May 85

[Jeffrey Omey commentary]

[Text] There was a time when the global oil market was, in fact, stable and to the great advantage of oil-producing countries. This was in the 60's and 70's when oil was the principal energy source — power in the world economy. It also was the time when the OPEC was not only a household word but also a dictator of price and production level. It is therefore not quite surprising that at that period of relative stability in the world oil market, total world oil consumption, according to the World (?Watt) Institute report, rose from 7.8 billion barrels in 1960 to 22.8 billion barrels in 1979. The decline in world oil consumption began in 1980 partly because of the search for alternative sources of energy by the Western industrialized nations and mainly because supply outstripped demand, resulting in the global oil glut. The report also showed that world oil consumption declined from 23.1 billion barrels in 1980 to 20.5 billion barrels in 1983 and the downward trend has continued until the present day. The sharp decline in total world oil consumption coupled with the emergence of more oil-producing nations such as Britain, Norway, Mexico, and Egypt that are non-OPEC members brought about a corresponding fall in oil prices.

In effect, the 13 member nations of OPEC were faced with the prime problems of stabilizing oil prices and production quotas. OPEC, however, adpoted two major principles to overcome these problems. The first is that no member state should sell her oil on barter basis and below the OPEC-fixed prices. The other is that members should not exceed their oil production quota laid down by OPEC. Ever since the endorsement of these principles, the declared objective is far from being attained. What followed were speculations and high suspicion within the ranks of the cartel for the noncompliance by some member nations, thereby rendering ineffective all the principles initiated to foster the stability of the oil market.

OPEC, in its determination to forestall the apparent malpractices, appointed a team of auditors to investigate each member's oil production sales and pricing system. The success of the auditing team will depend largely on the cooperation given to it by member countries of the cartel. The report of the auditing team will be an exercise in futility in the absence of any form of sanctions against defaulting members over the issue of prices and production quota.

Assuming that OPEC (?overcomes) the present uncertainties, another factor is the emergence of non-OPEC oil-producing countries. Obviously, the question of stabilizing the world oil market can no longer be a monopoly of OPEC as was the case in the early 70's. There is no denying the fact that the greatest obstacle to OPEC's ambition to maintain high prices by controlling the supply of oil is the unilateral actions of non-OPEC nations. Their inroad into the world oil market led to fluctuations in oil prices with the result that countries that rely on the commodity as their main source of revenue earning and foreign exchange are on the receiving end. And despite the fact that prices and production levels of the non-OPEC countries are not pegged, the current instability in the world oil market is equally having adverse effects on their economies. What these imply is that both OPEC and non-OPEC countries, as well as their potential customers are not making the best of the commodity. It is therefore rational for OPEC and non-OPEC countries to enter into meaningful dialogue and cooperation on production levels and prices. This is the only hope of bringing about the desired stability in the oil market.

PRC Envoy on Strengthening Bilateral Ties

AB221802 Lagos Domestic Service in English 1500 GMT 22 May 85

[Text] China has expressed the desire to further strengthen her existing relations with Nigeria. The new Chinese ambassador to Nigeria, Mr Wang Yusheng, said in Lagos that there was the need for both countries to explore new avenues that would expand their cooperation in technical and economic fields.

Mr Wang, who was speaking in an interview with a Radio Nigeria diplomatic correspondent, remarked his country and Nigeria had many things in common since thee both belong to the Third World. He pledged to work toward the strengthening of Sino-Nigerian relations in all fields during his tenure. Mr Wang presented his letters of credence to the head of state last Friday. Nigeria and China established diplomatic relations in February 1971. The two countries also mark their national day on October 1.

TOGO

Nigerian Envoy Delivers Message to Eyadema

AB231641 Lome Domestic Service in French 1230 GMT 23 May 85

[Excerpts] The head of state, president of the republic, General Gnassingbe Eyadema, this morning granted an audience to the Nigerian ambassador to Togo, his excellency Mr Oshodi. He

delivered a message from President Muhammadu Buhari to President Eyadema. This message is related to the expulsion of illegal aliens from Nigeria. Koffi Atsou Amegah, the minister of foreign affairs and cooperation and member of the Central Committee, attended the audience. After the audience, Mr Oshodi made the following statement to the press:

[Begin Oshodi recording in English fading into French translation] I have been honored with an audience by the head of state. The main purpose of my audience was to deliver a message which my head of state had charged me to deliver to him.

As you know, the current issue of the returnees from Nigeria, returnees who do not have the proper documents for staying in the country and to whom we have appealed for about a month and a half to leave the country peacefully. I have had interesting and illuminating discussions with the Togolese president and I hope that in a matter of days this exercise will be over. The repatriation exercise will end in a couple of days. And the reports which we have received from Lagos indicate that not many returnees are left. And between today and tomorrow, the arrangements have already been made in Lagos to have them (?repatriated). [End recording]

ANGOLA

CPSU Transport Delegation Begins 7-Day Visit

MB210636 Luanda Domestic Service in Portuguese 1200 GMT 20 May 85

[Text] A delegation of the Transport and Communications Department of the CPSU Central Committee arrived in Luanda this morning for an official 7-day visit to our country, at the invitation of the MPLA-Labor Party. The CPSU delegation was received by officials of the Energy and Telecommunications Department of the MPLA-Labor Party. During the 7-day visit, the CPSU delegation will visit a number of transport, energy, and heavy industry enterprises.

Tours Huila Province

MB221643 Luanda Domestic Service in Portuguese 1200 GMT 22 May 85

[Text] A delegation of the Transport and Communications Department of the CPSU Central Committee, which arrived in our country last Monday, continued its visit to Huila Province today, where it has been visiting important production centers. More details from our correspondent in Huila Province:

[Unidentified reporter] In the framework of the exchange of experiences between the People's Republic of Angola and the USSR in the fields of party leadership, transport, energy, and communications, a Soviet delegation headed by Comrade (Peter Pazurikh), head of the Transport and Communications Department of the CPSU Central Committee, has been in Huila Province since last Monday.

The delegation, which includes CPSU Central Committee officials, notably (Pal Marov), from the heavy industry and power engineering department, and (Yuan Khinyev), from the International Department, paid a lengthy visit to the vitally important hydroelectric complex at Matala town, where they were guided by (ENE) [expansion unknown] regional director Rocha Santos. The complex has 86 workers and relies on Soviet cooperation in order to supply electricity to Huila and Namibe provinces, with prospects of extending these service to Cunene and Cuando Cubango provinces.

While at Matala town, the Soviet delegation also visited Macia (?milling) factory [words indistinct].

Yesterday afternoon, the CPSU delegation visited Engoma beer factory, and it was also scheduled to visit a number of economic, historic, and tourist centers.

It should be stressed that the USSR delegation is accompanied by Jose Cereal, head of the energy and petroleum department of the MPLA-Labor Party Central Committee, and Oliveira Francisco, an official of the External Relations Department of the MPLA-Labor Party Central Committee. The delegation is expected to leave Lubango this afternoon for Luanda after visiting the Huila regional museum.

Cooperation Protocol With USSR Signed in Luanda

MB221611 Luanda Domestic Service in Portuguese 1200 GMT 22 May 85

[Text] The People's Republic of Angola and the USSR this morning in Luanda signed a cultural and scientific exchanges protocol for the period 1985-1986. Under this agreement, the USSR will grant 300 scholarships and 15 apprenticeships of from 3 to 6 months for Angolan students in USSR secondary and higher education establishments.

According to the document, the People's Republic of Angola will receive USSR cultural delegations this year and in 1986 for exchanges of experiences between the two peoples. The document was signed by Comrades Carlos Fernandes, the Angolan secretary of state for cooperation, and Arnold Kalinin, the USSR ambassador accredited to Angola. It is within the framework of cultural and scientific exchanges signed between the governments of the two countries in Moscow on 22 May (?1976).

On the occasion, Comrade Carlos Fernandes stressed the importance of the protocol on strengthening existing cooperation ties between the two peoples.

Meetings on Education Cooperation With GDR Held

MB161550 Luanda Domestic Service in Portuguese 1200 GMT 16 May 85

[Text] The strengthening of cooperation and exchanges in the field of education between the People's Republic of Angola and the GDR was analyzed in Luanda this morning by delegations from the respective countries in the framework of the fifth session of the education subcommission of the joint economic commission.

At the opening ceremony, the deputy minister of education for basic education recalled some important cooperation issues between the education ministries of the two countries during 1984:

[Begin recording] First, I would like to express our satisfaction with the fact that you are again in Angola so that together, we may take another step along the path which we began 2 years ago, with a view to ever-greater cooperation and exchanges between our ministries.

These contacts, which so far have produced good results, are based on the militant friendship and solidarity linking our respective parties, governments, and peoples. We aim for a new society and in this regard education and teaching play a very important and strategic role.

I am particularly pleased with the fact that during 1984, despite all the hardships which we experienced, our cooperation reached very high levels. The same happened in previous years. It is with these results in mind that we must build our future cooperation relations after we have overcome our current obstacles, and of course we are ready to confront any other obstacles which we will certainly encounter along our path.

Our cooperation has utilized quality standards and must continue to do so. Our areas of cooperation and guidelines have proven to be the most appropriate, and therefore they must be maintained. I regard as particularly important the future holding of a second course to train inspectors, and the holding of a course for municipal education delegates and school headmasters. We rely on GDR collaboration for both projects. [End recording].

These meetings are expected to continue until 22 May with the participation of senior Angolan and GDR education officials.

Outside of these meetings, the GDR delegation, which is headed by its deputy minister of education, is expected to visit a number of Angolan schools and higher education establishments.

BOTSWANA

BDP Member Cites Student Contact With Moscow

MB230827 Gaborone Domestic Service in English 0510 GMT 23 May 85

[Text] The chairman of the Botswana Democratic Party [BDP] youth wing, Mr (Silokale Siloma), says he is worried that the Students Representative Council [SRC] of the University of Botswana has directly contacted the Soviet Union and requested permission for more of its members to be allowed to attend the World Festival of Youth and Students. The festival will be held in Moscow from 27 July to 3 August.

According to Mr (Siloma), the SRC telexed Moscow without going through the BDP youth wing, to whom the invitation had been formally sent. The youth wing had invited three representatives from the Botswana National Front, three from the Botswana People's Party, and one from the SRC itself.

Meanwhile, the SRC vice president, who is also its minister of information, has denied any knowledge of his council sending a message to Moscow.

Front Leader Says Civil Servants Opposing BDP Fired

MB171922 Gaborone Domestic Service in English 1610 GMT 17 May 85

[Excerpt] The secretary general of the Botswana National Front, Mr Mareledi Giddie, has alleged that civil servants who were in the past suspected of towing a political line opposed to the policies of the ruling Botswana Democratic Party [BDP] were dismissed from the public service. Speaking at a political rally in (Gulimadsi) recently, Mr Giddie said he wanted to differ with a statement by the permanent secretary to the president, Mr Festus Mogwe, recently when he addressed civil servants on participation in politics.

LESOTHO

Foreign Minister Leaves for Tanzanian Visit

MB231825 Maseru Domestic Service in English 1600 GMT 23 May 85

[Text] The minister of foreign affairs, the Honorable V.M. Makhele, left Lesotho today for Tanzania to attend an international conference on peace and security in southern Africa

The conference to be held in Arusha will start tomorrow and end on Friday. The conference will be attended by scholars, officials of international organizations, liberation movements, ambassadors, as well as foreign ministers.

The theme of the conference is peace and security in southern Africa, and one of the aims is to examine and debate on the threat to peace in the southern African region.

MADAGASCAR

Ratsiraka Receives Visiting PRC Delegation

MB211322 Antananarivo Domestic Service in French 1030 GMT 21 May 85

[Text] The president of the Democratic Republic of Madagascar, His Excellency Mr Didier Ratsiraka, received this morning at Ambohitsorohitra State Palace a Chinese delegation of friendship with peoples headed by Mr Wang (?Qili). Mr (?Qili) told President Ratsiraka during the meeting about his trip to Toamasina and his impressions after visiting a Sino-Malagasy construction site near the RN-2 road. This Chinese delegation has also met the Chinese doctors who work in the Malagasy hospitals within the framework of the bilateral cooperation.

The Chinese diplomat thanked Mr Bruno Rakotomavo, Malagasy minister of information and ideological guidance, for the warm reception accorded to his delegation and for the schedule arranged for his delegation. He also met Giscard Rakotomene, a member of the Supreme Council of Revolution and chairman of Sino-Malagasy Friendship Association, the secretary general of that organization, the minister of information and ideological guidance, and Mr Maximizassera from the [word indistinct].

MOZAMBIQUE

Renamo Denies Responsibility for Kidnapping

LD231318 Lisbon International Service in Portuguese 1200 GMT 23 May 85

[Text] Renamo, the Mozambican National Resistance, has denied responsibility for the kidnapping in Mozambique last week of two Italians and six Portuguese — two men, a woman, and three children — and has blamed their reported disappearance on Mozambican Government troops and People's Militia.

In a communique issued in Lisbon, the guerrilla organization urged foreigners not to travel around Mozambique to avoid being the target of kidnapping by Frelimo forces and People's Militia who then blame Renamo.

Jorge Correia, Renamo's European representative, said in the communique that he will send an urgent message to the speaker of the Portuguese parliament to say that Renamo is not holding, the three children reported to have been abducted.

It should be mentioned that the father of Carla Maria da Costa Fernandes, one of the missing children, sent a cable to the speaker pleading for urgent efforts by international organizations to trace the whereabouts of his daughter.

Machel Holds Talks With Poland's Gertych
MB171210 Maputo Domestic Service in Portuguese
0800 GMT 17 May 85

[Text] President Samora Machel received the Polish parliamentary delegation led by Zbigniew Gertych, vice marshal of the Polish Parliament, in Maputo yesterday afternoon.

Cooperation between the two countries was discussed during the meeting. The head of state informed the Polish delegation of the situation in the southern African region. At the meeting, which lasted slightly over an hour, President Samora Machel reiterated the Mozambican people's solidarity with the Polish people, whose struggle for peace and social progress have been a target of imperialism.

The head of the Polish parliamentary delegation expressed thanks for the support that Mozambique has been giving Poland, particularly at difficult moments when it faces greater pressures from imperialism.

Chinese, Korean Diplomats Support Solidarity
MB220623 Maputo Domestic Service in Portuguese
1700 GMT 21 May 85

[Text] (Dong Jiangcheng), Chinese charge d'affaires in Maputo, today reaffirmed the desire of his government and people to support Mozambique in the struggle against the armed bandits and the difficulties brought about by the natural disasters. (Dong Jiang- cheng) was speaking to the workers of the Soveste garment factory in Maputo today as part of the solidarity week being held for the 10th national independence anniversary celebrations. Meanwhile, Cha Myong-Kuk, Korean ambassador, hailed the support given by our country to Democratic Korea's struggle to reunify its fatherland. Ambassador Kuk was speaking late this morning to Hidromoc water enterprise workers at a meeting marking the Asia day of solidarity week. He also expressed Korea's support for Mozambique's current struggle.

FPLM Forces Kill 25 'Bandits' in Manica
MB230817 Maputo Domestic Service in Portuguese
1900 GMT 22 May 85

[Text] The FPLM stationed in Manica Province recently killed 50 armed bandits who were trying to attack a village in Muchamba Region, in Sussundenga District. A source in the Manica Provincial Military Command announced this and added that many other bandits were wounded and fled in disarray. The FPLM immediately began search and capture operations.

NAMIBIA

Media Representatives Reject Accreditation
MB231520 Johannesburg SAPA in English
1519 GMT 23 May 85

[Text] Windhoek, May 23, SAPA — Media representatives in SWA/Namibia today rejected proposals for a system of accreditation for journalists submitted by the central government in the territory.

Instead, they decided to call a meeting of editors and foreign correspondents based in the territory to decided on a course of action for further consultations with the central authority on issues affecting liaison with the media.

The proposals were submitted at a media conference in Windhoek by the secretary of governmental affairs, Mr Fred Visagie.

In terms of the planned system, journalists could apply voluntarily to be accredited with the central government.

If granted, accreditation would enable a news reporter to gain easy access to official information through senior officials of various government departments assigned to handle media enquiries.

The system provides for accreditation to be withdrawn at any time. Officials at the conference said the system was aimed at elevating the status of journalists and to facilitate certain practical arrangements such as being allowed to enter public buildings by security officials upon producing proof of accreditation.

The sytem was also intended to ease liaison between the authorities and the media, officials said.

Senior journalists at the conference, however, expressed their concern that a system of accreditation, which could be refused or withdrawn, would violate the principle of free flow of information between the government and the people.

They said it would also interfere with the discretion of editors in the day-to-day running of news rooms and the jurisdiction of editors in the employment and working conditions of editorial staff. Officials emphasised that the proposals were drawn up in good faith and Mr Visagie invited the media for further consultations in future concerning media liaison.

Media representatives afterwards decided to convene a meeting of editors and foreign correspondents as a first step to discuss the issue.

SOUTH AFRICA

Government Proposes Meeting With Angola

MB241230 Johannesburg SAPA in English
1228 GMT 24 May 85

[Text] Cape Town, May 24, SAPA — The South African Government has proposed an urgent meeting with the Angolan Government to discuss the return of a captured South African and the bodies of two others.

This is the main message contained in a memorandum sent to the Angolan Government today.

The contents were revealed by the minister of foreign affairs, Mr Pik Botha.

The mesage explains that South African security forces were in northern Angola because it had been established that the area was now "the main base area for the training of ANC terrorists who are dispatched via other countries to the Republic of South Africa."

"The minister of defence, General Magnus Malan, would deal with the matter during his defence vote debate in parliament next week," the memorandum says. "In the circumstances the South African Security Forces have felt it necessary to gather intelligence on the activities of ANC and SWAPO terrorists in Angola and to take appropriate counter-action.

"In the course of such operations a small team of South Africans apparently clashed with Angolan military elements.

"According to reports from the ANGOLAN NEWS AGENCY two South Africans were killed and one was captured.

"The South African Government proposes an urgent meeting with the Angolan Government with regard to this incident and with regard to the return of the captured South African and the bodies of the two who were killed," the memorandum says.

It also points out that the South African Government last year expressed "its grave concern" at the activities of large numbers of ANC terrorists in various parts of Angola.

"The South African Government repeatedly urged the Angolan Government to remove these terrorists from its territory and to cease assisting them with training, equipment and by making its territory available to them for the furtherence of their activities."

On May 21 last year the South African Government proposed that both governments issue a joint declaration that they would not allow any person or organisation to be trained or accommodated on their territory to operate or practise violence against the other.

"Thus far the Angolan Government has failed to respond to these representations.

"The ANC elements in Angola cannot be characterised as harmless refugees. On the contrary they pose a direct threat to the people of South Africa," the message says.

"It is an established principle of international law that a state may not permit or encourage on its territory activities for the purpose of carrying out acts of violence in the territory of another state.

"It is equally well established tha a state has a right to take appropriate steps to protect its own security and territorial integrity against such acts."

SADF Declines Comment on Troops in Angola

MB240910 Johannesburg SAPA in English
0858 GMT 24 May 85

[Text] Pretoria, May 24, SAPA — The South African Defence Force today refused to comment on reports that two of its soldiers had died and a third taken captive in Angola, but reaffirmed it had lost contact with a group of its troops operating near the capital of Luanda.

A SADF spokesman said in Pretoria that he had nothing to add to a statement made yesterday by the defence force chief, General Constand Viljoen.

In reaction to questions about an Angolan report that the soldiers had been captured after trying to sabotage an oil refinery in Cabinda Province, General Viljoen yesterday released a statement saying the SADF had lost contact with one of its patrols which had been working north and south of Luanda.

He did not comment on what had happened to the group, but admitted it was one of several contingents from the SADF operating in Angola.

"The defence force is involved in gathering information about hostile elements which threaten the safety of South West Africa and South Africa," General Viljoen said.

Opposition Leader Criticizes Presence in Angola

MB231957 Umtata Capital Radio in English
1900 GMT 23 May 85

[Text] White opposition parties have reacted to the news that South African forces are still operating in Angola. Progressive Federal Party Leader Frederik van Zyl Slabbert says South Africa has no right to be militarily involved in Angola when its interests are not threatened. He says he is greatly disturbed at reports that South African Defense Force troops are deep in the country. Dr Slabbert says after the dissolution of the joint monitoring commission it was accepted by Angola, South Africa, and the international community that South Africa would withdraw from Angolan soil and, he says, the latest incident will reflect on South Africa's credibility. Dr Slabbert has added that

just as the South African Government is adamant that it does not tolerate external interference in its domestic affairs, so South Africa's neighbors should expect the same from South Africa.

The New Republic Party defense spokesman Vause Raw says the incident, in which two South Africans were reported killed and one captured, is one of the unfortunate hazards of maintaining an effective intelligence service.

Botha Cites Counteraction Against Terrorism
MB240632 Johannesburg Domestic Service in English 0500 GMT 24 May 85

[Text] The state president, Mr P.W. Botha, says the spiral of frustration, aggression, and conflict in South Africa has to be broken. Addressing a banquet of the Southern Cross Fund in Johannesburg, Mr Botha said internal violence and incitement of feelings were part of the international campaign against the country. He said terrorism understood only one language, and that was effective counteraction. South Africa had, however, succeeded in keeping terrorist bases outside its border, despite insurgency. Mr Botha said South Africa was not unique concerning the results of the conflict in the country, but it was unique in its attempts to solve the issue of minority rights in its own way.

Le Grange Says 331 Killed in Political Violence
MB231951 Umtata Capital Radio in English 1900 GMT 23 May 85

[Text] South Africa's minister of law and order says 331 people have been killed in political violence in South Africa in the 8 months to the end of April. Minister Louis le Grange has given the number in a statement released in Cape Town. According to the official figures, 243 of those killed died in police operations and 88 were killed in attacks on counselors and police and in battles between rival groups which put it at more than 350.

'Prominent' UDF Members Flee to Botswana
MB231646 Johannesburg Domestic Service in English 1600 GMT 23 May 85

[Text] Three prominent members of the United Democratic Front and affiliated organizations who were involved in last November's boycott actions in the PWV [Pretoria-Witwatersrand-Vereeniging] area have fled South Africa.

According to reports from Botswana, the three have already been in the country for some time. They are Mr Thami Mali of the Release Mandela Campaign, Mr Oupa Monareng of the Sowetu Youth Congress, and Mr Themba Monsentane of the Maguse Trade Union. They were to have appeared in court in Johannesburg on charges of subversive activities but have skipped bail.

Police Arrest Labor Union Leaders, Workers
MB232022 Umtata Capital Radio in English 1900 GMT 23 May 85

[Text] Three organizers of the South African Allied Workers Union and 16 workers have been arrested in East London. A union official says their offices were surrounded by police and teargased. He says police then arrested the officials and workers who were sacked from a local company last week. The official says the 19 were about to begin a meeting on the dismissals when the police burst in. It is believed those arrested will appear in court tomorrow, although it is not known what charges they will be facing.

ANC Comments on RSA Forces 'Spying' in Angola
MB240730 Umtata Capital Radio in English 0600 GMT 24 May 85

[Text] In Lusaka, the ANC says it is not suprised that South Africa has been spying on its activities in Angola. The exiled South African organization says it has never deceived itself into thinking the ANC is safe in Angola, or anywhere else.

Condemning the admission that South African forces are operating in Angola, the ANC says that that is further evidence of Pretoria's determination to deceive international opinion. The organization notes that the admission closely follows the South African announcement that their forces have withdrawn from Angola. The ANC accuses Pretoria of telling outright lies in an attempt to gain international credibility and acceptability.

ANC Urges UDF, Azapo Unity Against Pretoria
EA221546 Addis Ababa Radio Freedom in English to South Africa 1930 GMT 21 May 85

[Excerpt] Compatriots, in recent days there has been growing friction between the membership of the organizations that have placed themselves for democratic change in our country. This friction that has now resulted into a number of fierce clashes and confrontations between the membership of mainly the United Democratic Front [UDF] and the Azapo [Azanian People's Organization], is certainly a matter of deep concern to every genuine patriot of our motherland.

It is for this reason that our vanguard liberation movement, the ANC, sincerely welcomes the efforts that were made this past weekend by our patriots to meet and discuss in a calm atmosphere of dialogue to resolve the dispute. The ANC has always underlined, countrymen, that clashes within the democratic forces in our country can never benefit any of us. It is in fact a reversal of our struggle. It can only benefit our common enemy, the vicious and colinial apartheid regime. A clash between the democratic forces can only be tantamount to a struggle of the powerless for power over each other.

Compatriots, in a recent statement issued to express concern about this worsening situation and calling for stronger unity within the democratic forces, the ANC highlighted that the enemy of our people, the enemy of all democratic forces of our

country, Is frightened of the unity of the oppressed because it knows that unity is our strongest weapon against it. The ANC noted so that is why the enemy is using its powerful media, its puppets, its army and the police to counter our growing unity. The ANC stressed that the careful preservation of our unity, therefore, must become one of our main priorities. It called on all our democratic forces to defend our unity with all our energies, with our blood and life if need be, because our freedom and social justice depends on our unity.

The ANC noted that we must stop the enemy from exploiting the temporary problem which exists now between the UDF and Azapo. These problems must be resolved in a calm spirit of a political dialogue as they do not constitute antagonistic contradictions. We should not be diverted, countrymen, from the right political line of march and give comfort to an increasingly uncomfortable and frightened regime. We should work hard to prevent our people from becoming unwitting tools of the Botha-Malan-Le Grange clique. The ANC pointed that there may be, however, some amongst us whose limited political perspective may cause them to oppose the democratic aims of our revolutionary struggle. It is our task, however, to convince them of the correctness of our cause. Patriotic elements within them will and must see their way forward and, therefore, joint the democratic majority on the highway to freedom.

This call of the ANC for urgent measures by all democratic forces of our country to strengthen our unity is a call, countrymen, that was inscribed in the banners of our vanguard liberation movement, the ANC, ever since it was formed. As the president of the ANC, Comrade Oliver Tambo, once pointed, all the gains that we have scored in the past 70 years of our struggle have been the result of our unity in action and this is why we should build upon those gains:

[Begin Tambo recording] After 70 years of unrelenting struggle, and building on the historic and irreversible gains (?we got) during these decades, we have reached a stage and the process of consolidating basis of popular power among the people has begun. To promote this status we have decided to mobilize our people for the oncoming period under the watchwords: Unity in action. Our strength lies in unity and our future advances in action. Without unity, we are weak, and without action we remain oppressed. To move forward we must attack, act in unity, and unite in action.

The gains recorded during 70 years of struggle have, thanks to the great contribution made by the successive generations of our people, given us the possibility to achieve such unity in practice. The motto of unity was inscribed on our battle (?standards) on the very day of the creation of the ANC. As Seme had declared while organizing the first congress: We are one people. For their part, the delegates resolved to bring together the oppressed into common action as one political people. We have, therefore, striven for 7 decades to build one common nation with one destiny. Our shared experiences of collective sacrifices in the struggle for a strong base have linked us together as one solid block of liberation. The comradeship that we have forged in the (?trenches) of freedom, transcending the [word indistinct] that the enemy sought to create, is a guarantee and a precondition for our victory. But we need still to build on these achievements. All of us, workers, peasants, students, priests, chiefs, traders, teachers, civil servants, poets, writers, men, women, and youth, black and white, must take our common destiny in our own hands.

We call upon our working people, the backbone of our liberation movement, to mobilize as never before at the points of production to build a powerful democratic trade union movement for the advancement of the interests of the workers and for their activization into the struggle for the victory of the national democratic revolution. We call upon our people in the Bantustans to mobilize and to isolate and destroy the Pretoria puppets. Let us all fight for a democratic and unified South Africa. We call upon our youth and students to maintain and heighten their spirit of resistance. You have already demonstrated that you are a detachment of greatest courage and heroism.

Now, more than ever before, our struggle demands that you act with supreme dedication and vigor under the banner of our fighting movement. We call upon our womenfolk to raise the cry for vengeance against those who are murdering, maiming, and torturing our sons and daughters for their participation in our struggle. You have already demonstrated that you do choose between dying in defense of apartheid or join the noble force of national liberation. We call upon the millions of the oppressed to stand shoulder to shoulder at this crucial hour in our history. The enemy manuevers to sow division in our ranks must be defeated. Our destiny is one. We call upon those among our people who have been clad in army and police uniforms to rethink their role. You have it within your grasp to choose between dying in defense of apartheid or joining the noble force of national liberation.

We call upon those in the white community who stand ready to live a life of real equality and nonracialism to make common goals with our struggle for genuine liberation. The need for us to continue acting in unity in the struggle to destroy the apartheid regime, the enemy of all Africa, increases with the intensification of the struggle. Let us [word indistinct] to millions of your brothers and sisters held prisoner by the Pretoria regime that this year you will, together with them, take new initiatives to further advance our unity in action. [End recording]

ANC Commentary Discusses Le Grange Statements

LD231333 Addis Ababa Radio Freedom in English to South Africa 1930 GMT 22 May 85

[Station commentary: "Apartheid Regime Prepares the Ground for a Barbarous Attack"]

[Text] Compatriots: The blunderbuss apartheid minister of so-called law and order, Louis le Grange has again let slip statements that are clearly indicating that his fascist regime is planning to launch a barbarous military attack against members of our vanguard liberation movement, the ANC. Statements that are very much similar to those that have been uttered on many occasions before by fascist leaders and their racist mouthpiece Radio RSA on the eve of an attack against ANC activists and militants in neighbouring independent states.

In an interview he gave to the British agency, REUTERS, last Monday, Le Grange [words indistinct] as accusing the ANC of planning to launch an attack against what he called soft civilian targets in South Africa. According to REUTERS, Le Grange had claimed to be having information which shows that the ANC may attack civilian leaders as well as officers in the police and military defence force.

Compatriots, we are not unmindful of the fact that each time whenever the apartheid rulers are about to launch a savage attack against South African refugees in neighbouring states such a scheme is always preceded by a highly orchestrated campaign of propaganda manifested by distortions and lies that are aimed at portraying our liberation movement as a callous and murderous organization that has not regard for human life. A movement that needs to be preempted by a vicious attack before it goes ahead with its sinister plan of killing innocent and unarmed civilians in South Africa.

The sensitive ways civilians and soft targets are always brought into play in an attempt to play on the sentiments of the public at home and abroad to try and portray the ANC as a movement that is bent to just recklessly killing civilians and hitting at the so-called soft targets. It is a well-known fact, however, countrymen, that our vanguard movement, the ANC has no reason to start a campaign of butchering defenseless and unarmed civilians and those so-called soft targets. Although it is equally a well-known fact in South Africa that by civilians it is usually meant only the white population of this country.

To Le Grange the black people who are being ruthlessly killed in Uitenhage, (Dubuza), (Kwatema), Port Elizabeth, Soweto, Sebokeng and other areas of our country where his army and police are deployed. Those people are not civilians. To him, they are troublemakers and rioters who may be slaughtered in cold-blood at will.

And yet still it is a matter of doubt whether there can be any white person in South Africa who can still be classified as a civilian in the true sense of the word when every white person above the age of 18 is allowed to carry a gun and now that there is even compulsory military conscription which affects every white person below the age of 55. However, countrymen, the ANC is not at all concerned about killing the lives of unarmed white people who we all know that they are only being used and manipulated by the fascist ruling clique to defend its profits and riches nor any other group of people in our country for that matter.

In the past 25 years or so of its military campaign against the fascist Pretoria regime, the ANC has never gone out specifically against unarmed civilians, and it is not about to do so. We have no reason to do that. Those who have been affected in the past have been in most cases victims of the recklessness of the apartheid regime and its disregard for human life by pushing them forward as canon fodder for its demoralized army and police personnel.

No sensible movement like the ANC would go out of its way to do that, and, if Le Grange boasts so much about his sophisticated intelligence network that is supposed to gather information from the anc, then that intelligence should have told him what the ANC policy of armed struggle is all about. There is no doubt, however, that they certainly should have told him that these lies and distortions of ANC policy are against being brought to play to lay ground for a massive invasion of a neighbouring independent state with the hope of allegedly crushing the back of the ANC. We have ourselves heard in recent days, countrymen, the apartheid leaders shouting with monotonous regularity about their arrogant right to mount hot pursuit operations against neighbouring states. Le Grange's statement to REUTERS last Monday must be viewed along those lines. An attempt to prepare ground for another barbarous attack against South African refugees in neighbouring independent states.

Compatriots, it is a matter of fact, however, that whilst the ANC has never and will never make it its policy to specifically attack unarmed civilians of whatever color in our country, yet we make no apologies about having to wipe out officers and personnel of the fascist army and police as well as their puppets and collaborators. the militants and freedom fighters of Umkhonto we Sizwe shall never hesitate to deal with the traitors who are roaming amongst our people in the townships, selling their people to the murderous regime for a few pieces of (?shillings) and those who are today participating in the countrywide massacre of our people, the maiming, torture, and brutal killing of our patriots.

The fascist police and army, countrymen, as well as their puppets and traitors who are black only by face and yet fascists at heart shall not be spared by the well-trained and armed cadres of Umkhonto we Sizwe. They are, today, now the only remaining pillars of the crumbling and doomed regime of terror. They are the enemies of our people both black and white, and no mercy should be showed to them. We make no apologies about having to attack and eliminating those, for they form the most crucial structure of the dictatorial colonial apartheid regime.

It is they that are today deployed in our townships from the Transvaal right up to the cape and have now claimed the lives of more than 400 of our people — our unarmed civilians in the townships. By attacking the apartheid army and police personnel, countrymen, wherever they may be, whether from their offices at (Poorbreker Worte), Pretoria, or in the streets of our townships, [words indistinct] be signifying any change in the strategy of our armed offensive against the apartheid regime. By eliminating those who are clad in enemy uniforms only means the intensification of our armed struggle. [sentence as heard] This we have said and we shall continue to say. For the apartheid regime to collapse, its instruments of brutal terror and repression must be crushed into a heap or ruins. They must be defeated and defeated they will be. It is against these instruments of apartheid rule, countrymen, that our vanguard movement, the ANC, calls not only on the freedom fighters of Umkhonto we Sizwe but also on our entire people in their millions, wherever they may be, to find ways of organizing themselves into small mobile units which will protect the people against these anti-social elements and act in an organized way in both black and white areas against the enemy and its agents. Every black area must become a no-go area for any isolated individuals or pockets of the enemys police or armed personnel.

The people must find ways to obtain arms by whatever means from the enemy and from any other source. Appropriate forms of combat tactics must be developed for situations in which these enemy personnel, army and police, are on the rampage against our people. Compatriots, the proliferation of such units and their functioning in accordance with all the rules of underground secrecy will add inestimable power and strength to the armed wing of our liberation movement, Umkhonto we Sizwe. Let us hit back, countrymen, against the enemys armed personnel, its army and police.

Commentary Encourages Unrest in Rural Areas
MB232026 Lusaka Radio Freedom in English to South Africa 1700 GMT 23 May 85

[Station commentary]

[Text] The popular upsurge which has been going on in South Africa for many months now is increasingly engulfing the entire country. Many rural areas in the Transvaal, Orange Free State, and the Cape have in recent days seen the populations there becoming more and more restive.

This acknowledgement has come from no less than the minister of law and order, Louis le Grange, who described the situation as extremely worrying. Violent incidents in these areas are counted in hundreds. It has been said by many a concerned person that frustrations are running high and that people are no longer prepared to be governed in the same old way. There can be no truer word. Violent confrontations which have been going on in the urban areas between residents and the regime's Armed Forces have come to [word indistinct] the masses of our people in the rural areas.

We have repeatedly pointed out many a time that resistance should not be confined to urban areas alone but should be spread to rural areas as well. South Africa's forces of repression should not be enabled to cope up with the current uprising by concentrating on one area. Let the attacks against the enemy be spread to all corners of our country so that his forces should be weakened and scattered all over.

Le Grange has already made it clear that the present situation in the rural areas, where our people are fighting courageously, is worrying his government. That should be a word on encouragement to the embattled mass of the oppressed people.

In the country where the majority are kept groaning in oppression with the use of the gun, violent confrontation between the victims and the oppressor is imperative. Nothing less than that violent and fierce confrontation with the enemy all over the country will make him heed our calls for freedom.

Botha is not alone in the laager. He has been joined by his puppets in Kwazulu, Transkei, Ciskei, Venda, Bophuthatswana and other Bantustans. [Passage indistinct] Populations in the rural and urban areas are one. Let there be concrete and active solidarity among the oppressed. [Passage indistinct]

SWAZILAND

TIMES Notes Inaccuracy in Report on Detentions
MB240840 Mbabane THE TIMES OF SWAZILAND in English 24 May 85 p 1

[Text] It has come to our notice that Prince Mfanasibili did not confirm to our reporter that 60-day orders on five detainees had been renewed as reported in *THE TIMES* yesterday.

When Prince Mfanasibili was approached by our reporter Pat Jele and representatives for the foreign media, he neither denied nor confirmed the renewal of the orders.

He merely referred them to the Commissioner of Police or the office of the Prime Minister.

We apologise for any embarrassment that may have resulted from the matter.

ZIMBABWE

Concessions to RSA-Based Journalists To End
MB231822 Harare Domestic Service in English 1745 GMT 23 May 85

[Text] The director of information, Comrade John Tsimba, has announced that no more concessions will be given to South African-based journalists to cover Zimbabwe as from the (?4th) of next month when the Mazowe earth satellite station becomes fully operational. Comrade Tsimba said media organizations operating out of South Africa will be expected to base their correspondents in Harare from where they will be able to send their stories from Zimbabwe to all over the world by satellite.

In the past the Department of Information had allowed some of the journalists based in Johannesburg to come to Zimbabwe because there were no adequate telecommunication facilities.